

History
of the
First Presbyterian Church

High Point, North Carolina



1859 to 1959

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Octavia Jordan Perry

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of the
First Presbyterian Church

High Point, North Carolina



1859 ∞ **1959**

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To

THE GLORY OF GOD

and

HELEN SNOW HAYES

*(Wife of the late Elder William Augustus Hayes,
and daughter of the late Elder Ernest Ansel Snow,
and Alice English Snow)—A woman whose faith
in, and love for her Church is boundless.*

FOREWORD

For some time, prior to becoming president of the Woman's Auxiliary of the church, Mrs. W. A. Hayes and I had discussed our desire that a history of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, be written—written to preserve the priceless heritage of the church which was only partially recorded.

A woman qualified to write such a history seemed to be Mrs. T. Wingate Andrews. When I became president of the Woman's Auxiliary, I appointed her to the office of Historian in this organization. She accepted the office, but when approached about writing a history of the church, she emphatically said, "No".

Several years passed. No one had been found who was willing to undertake such a task—it would require endless hours of research and interviews. The history must be written. Several times Mrs. Hayes asked me to try to do it. When no one could be found, willing to undertake this task, it came to me that I had heard it said, "Stop talking about getting a thing done or do something about it yourself".

I started writing this history, but since doing so I have many times wondered why I did, for there were few women in the church less qualified to do such a thing than I—my only qualification for attempting such a thing was a burning desire that a History of the Church be written.

The first seventy-five years was written prior to the celebration in 1934, but financial conditions in the church and throughout the country prohibited it from being published.

Twenty-five more years passed. No one could be found to complete the history. At last I succumbed to the prodding of Mrs. W. A. Hayes, Mr. Henry V. Koonts, and my husband, so with the help of others, here it is.

OCTAVIA JORDAN PERRY

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INTRODUCTION

From earliest historical records the locality around High Point was considered healthy and beautiful, and a good hunting ground, as well as a favorite trading post for the aborigines—here buffalo roamed the meadows and quenched their thirst in Deep River, and the Indians pitched their tepees, hunted, traded wampum and pelts with other tribes.

The white man, in settling America, soon came upon this locality, with its God-given necessities-of-life, and began building their homes nearby. In time this locality became, not only a trading post for the Indians, but a favorite place for the white trader, traveler, and farmer to bargain, and exchange their commodities with others.

When the white settlers first came to this locality they were too busy building cabins to spend any time on roads—building them seemed unessential, as the only travel they were forced to do could be made over the same trail they had used to reach the place. Eventually though, they did improve the trails by filling in holes, moving rocks, or cutting away offensive bushes, so that carts could be used on them, and then, in time, with further improvement, the stage-coach could pass over them.

With the coming of the stagecoach there arose other necessities for this community. A place had to be provided where the traveler could refresh himself, or spend the night. Inns were built—three of them: *Brummells Inn* in 1814, on the Greensboro-Salisbury Stage Road, six miles west on what is now West Lexington Avenue; *Welch's Inn*, known as *J. Welch Entertainment*, built a mile out from Mechanicsville on East Lexington Avenue; and the third one *Towmeys Inn*, the oldest of the three, at the intersection of the East-West and the North-South Trails. It stood about two miles from the center of the present city of High Point, well back from the trails, in a section of this city now known as Mechanicsville.

This last named Inn was constructed of hewn logs and was a story and a half in height. Many years ago it was razed and the logs carted away—few, if any, are the people left, who can say they ever saw it. If it were possible though, for the ground upon which this inn once stood to speak, many are the strange tales it might relate—tales both of mirth and sadness—also many eyes might be opened wide at what could be heard, and ground now transversed so carelessly, would become hallowed.

There might again be heard the sound of the approaching stagecoach, the shrill notes of the stage-driver's bugle, the clatter of the horses' hoofs, and the scraping sound of the brakes against the wheels of the coach, as it came to a stop under the shed of the inn. One might also see the passive inn come to life—the appearance of the inn-keeper, his wife and children, the black boys, and down the road the pedestrian, who had only a moment before been strolling so leisurely along, quicken his pace, so that he might miss none of the excitement created when the stagecoach came to a standstill.

If one is thoughtful he will know what the stagecoach meant to this community. It brought not only mail, but passengers, and the driver always had interesting stories to tell of what he had seen and heard—sometimes he even had exciting things to tell of what had happened to him on that trip. Then too, while the passengers were stretching their cramped limbs, and appeasing their appetites with apple cider and gingerbread, they were glad to tell of the part of the country from which they had come. In other words, this voice from the past would make it clear to each of us that the stagecoach played a major role in the drama of early life in and around High Point. This same voice might also reveal much about the earliest families which settled here. If it so willed it could tell us of their hardships, their heartaches, and their moments of merriment.

Concerning the family of Hitchcocks (now Hedgecocks), who still have descendents active in our church, the story goes back far enough to tell of the first man, known in this community, by that name. He was John Hitchcock Sr. Mr. Hitchcock was born on October 15, 1747, in Pennsylvania. In the year 1784 he joined a company of Quakers who were headed down the Virginia Valley towards Bush River, South Carolina. He brought with him his wife and three small children. They rode on horseback and led two pack-horses, which were heavily laden with household belongings. As he left Maryland, his oldest child, Bennie, was very sick. If there had been any assurance that another migration of Quakers would be coming this way soon, he would have waited, but since that was not likely, he continued with his family and sick child. But, to his already heavily loaded pack-horses he added a spade so that he might dig a grave if Bennie should die. The child did not die. As a matter of fact he lived to a ripe old age.

When this company of Quakers, Mr. Hitchcock was traveling with, reached this locality—the locality now in the City of High Point, Mr. Hitchcock decided to go no further. He liked the coun-

try around him. It was beautiful, fertile, and well watered, so he settled here with his family on a tract of land now known as the Mechanicsville section.

Before the year 1852 the city of High Point, North Carolina was not even a dream. The first recording of such a place was when the engineers, surveying the route for the North Carolina Railroad from Goldsboro to Charlotte, drove a stake in the earth and Captain Gregg called out, "This is the highest point along the whole survey. Mark it *High Point!*"

The place this stake was driven was on the west side of the Fayetteville and Western Plan Road (now Main Street)—a little north of the present train tracks. At the time this stake was driven there was not a dwelling in sight—nothing but farmland owned by Solomon Kendall. Although there were no buildings in sight it was in an easy half-day's walking distance, or stagecoach ride of several little towns—Bloomington and Bush Hill (Archdale), south on the plank road to Fayetteville—Jamestown east on the Salisbury-Raleigh stage road—Penfield west on the same stage road, and Browntown north on the old Salem stage road.

Soon after the surveying of the "Car Tracks," for that was what the Carolina Railroad was then called, far sighted businessmen began bargaining for the farmland adjacent to, and around the intersection of the Fayetteville and Western Plank Road with that of the North Carolina Railroad survey. On March 14, 1853, Doctor R. C. Lindsay bought from Nathan Johnson ninety-four acres of land, and on the nineteenth of the same month, six acres from Solomon Kendall, upon which he built a dwelling and moved in. On August 20, 1853, W. F. Bowman bought from Solomon Kendall six acres of land, and on October 21, 1853, Solomon Kendall sold to George C. Mendenhall, J. R. Mendenhall, Seaborn Perry, John Carter, and S. W. Tillenhas lots south of the railroad survey and east of the plank road. On October 28, 1853, William Welch bought from Solomon Kendall eleven and one half acres of land east of the plank road and north of the railroad survey.

Buying land in this locality was becoming quite the thing to do, and a good thing for Mr. Kendall. The value of his farmland was spread abroad and people from quite a distance away were becoming interested in it. Francis Fries, of Salem bought a tract of land from him on the west side of the plank road, and north of the railroad survey. And, on November 9, 1853, Eli Denny, from the Buf-

falo Creek Community, near Greensboro, came over and bought a six acre tract of land north of Mr. Fries. Because Mr. Denny was so impressed with the future of this locality he wanted to move his family to it right away; so he rented a small house from Solomon Wheeler, until he could get his home built, and moved right over. This move was on November 29, 1853, and thus his became the second new family to move into the community.

These two families had hardly gotten settled in their new homes when William Welch subdivided the land he had bought from Mr. Kendall, and advertised his eleven and a half acres subdivided into lots. Notices of the sale of these lots were posted in all the public places along-side the Plank Road, the Salisbury-Raleigh Stage Road, and all the inns and camping grounds. A public notice was also run in *The Greensboro Patriot*.

Johnson's Camping Ground was on the plank road, one mile north of where the railroad survey crossed it, at a strategic place where it caught travelers coming from Salisbury, Salem, Greensboro, and many other little settlements on the roads, as well as the farmers. The first day these notices appeared at Johnson's Camping Ground a goodly number of travelers had stopped to spend the night. Besides the fifteen or twenty wagons, which pulled up there for the night, there were a dozen or more farmers who were on their way rolling their hogsheads of tobacco to Fayetteville. After supper of this eventful day, the customary ceremonies of horse-swapping started, and for a long time it seemed that there was no other point of interest. But, gradually those who were not actually participating in the horse trading began to congregate around one of the big campfires. One of the men around this fire had a *Greensboro Patriot* which he had bought as he passed Towmey's Inn. For a long time he sat straining his eyes as he read it by the firelight. Then looking up he said: "Well, evidently Mr. Welch means business." Then striking the paper lightly, with the back of his hand he read:

"On the 5th of December, next, I will offer for sale a number of lots at High Point, which is the place where the North Carolina Railroad will cross the Fayetteville and Western Plank Road.

"The location is healthful and promises fair to become the location for one of the most thriving towns on the entire line of railroad."

¶ The reading of this advertisement seemed to bring the whole group, assembled around the fire, to life for Mr. Welch was well

known to most of them. A discussion of this advertisement followed and as it continued it was noted that there was a division of opinion among them over the value of these lots. Some could see no earthly excuse for getting excited over such ordinary farmland. While others, who had bought boards from Mr. Welch's sawmills, and had known him through the building of the plank road, thought he was a super businessman whose opinion was infallible. Some of them had known Mr. Welch since 1845 when the first survey was taken for the plank road. He had bought stock in it and had twice received dividends from his investment. This road was the longest continuous plank road that had so far been chartered in the State—one hundred and thirty miles in length—capitalized at \$200,000—with the State of North Carolina owning three-fifths of it. By 1850 toll had been collected over ten miles of this road and the capital stock had increased to \$300,000. With this stock increase a tributary road was to be built to Salisbury, Lexington, Mocksville, and Statesville. This new road would increase the business potentiality of the location where Mr. Welch was offering lots for sale, and some of the men voiced the opinion that they were going to be at this sale and might buy themselves a lot.

There are several versions as to how the old plank road was laid. Some say the boards—varying in width, but two inches thick, and eight to fourteen feet in length—were laid loose across the roadbed, while others claimed that three sleepers, or stringers, were laid on the edges and middle, and that boards of pine and oak were nailed to the stringers. While it is not known for sure how these boards were actually held in place, it is known that they were not cut square on the ends. They were cut on an angle so a wagon, or some other vehicle, accidentally getting off the road, might easily pull on to it again.

In order that a traveler might know how far he had traveled, or was from his destination, mileposts were set along the road every three miles. And, so that he still might be able to compute the distance—even if it were night, notches were cut on each post designating the miles to the next tollgate. One such milepost stood at the intersection of Thurston and North Main Street. Another one out on the Asheboro Highway, where Bloomington was then located.

By 1854 the plank road was completed to Salem, and the stagecoach ran regularly on it—making the trip from Salem to Fayetteville in a much shorter time than the wagons could. The reason for

this was, the stagecoach stopped only to change horses, allow the passengers to eat, and to take on and put off travelers, while the wagons camped out over night.

Until "The Cars" ran, the tollgate nearest High Point was at Johnson's Camping Ground, but with the operation of the railroad, this tollgate was moved to the Jarrell Hotel, adjacent to the railroad passenger station.

The tollgates were houses, usually built of logs with shelters that extended over the plank road, and every passing vehicle had to stop at them and pay toll to the next tollhouse. If it were night when the vehicle arrived, and the gates were locked, and the keeper could not be aroused, it had to wait patiently until morning. This patient waiting was usually observed by the driver unhitching the animal, or animals, that were drawing it, but leaving the vehicle on the road right where he had stopped. If the vehicle was left there the driver could maintain his position on the road for the next day.

The stagecoach passed along this road too, of course, and its first stop from Salem to Fayetteville was at John Chadwick's at Teaguetown. Here the horses were watered while the passengers walked around and stretched their cramped limbs.

The breaking of the ground for the North Carolina Railroad, which was the other factor responsible for the existence of the City of High Point, took place on July 11, 1851, and work started immediately at the extreme ends of the line—Goldsboro and Charlotte. When it was completed it would meet somewhere between Old Jamestown and Greensboro and there was to be a big celebration.

(In the construction of the railroad the promoters had had plenty of trouble. There was a tie-up in getting iron for the rails, and the price of it had advanced. Then there were unexpected delays in the completion of the bridges, and there were great and trivial complaints from both the stockholders and others, over the way the tracks were being laid.)

The completion of the railroad was on January 29, 1856, just a little over four and a half years from the time the ground was first broken. The cost of the project had exceeded the \$3,000,000 it was supposed to have cost by nearly a million and a half. This was upsetting but by no means did it daunt the excitement of the completion of the railroad tracks. There was going to be a big cele-

bration. But, this celebration which had been looked forward to for so long had to be postponed—there were sixteen inches of snow on the ground. The snow was slow in getting off of the ground so the celebration had to be postponed until July 11—this being the day of the month the ground had been broken for the tracks. At first this date seemed right until it came to the attention of some of the officials that on that date the stockholders would be in session at Raleigh, so July 4, was the date chosen instead.

When this memorable celebration was over the stockholders' problems were by no means over. There was much criticism about the running of "The Cars," both from stockholders and non-stockholders. They said that the beautiful scenery of the State could not be seen if they ran at such speed as scheduled. Then, too, the public did not uphold the idea that passengers going the full length of the line should have cheaper rates than those riding only from station to station. The schedule set for the speed of the passenger trains was sixteen miles an hour, and that for freights twelve. This was entirely too fast, said some, and the public at large wanted it cut to a considerably lower speed, and no trains allowed to run on Sunday.

From the first day that freight, on the railroad, was accepted, this locality proved to be all that had been expected of it. It was the central shipping point for towns all around—Salem, Bethania, and Danbury on the west, and Asheboro, Randleman, Cedar Falls, and other factory towns on Deep River. There had been no mistake in Mr. Welch's thinking. It was a town of destiny, but as yet a town without a name.

There is a great difference in opinion as to when and how High Point was actually named, but it must have been in the year 1855. As to who had the honor of doing this it is not known either. From notes kept by Eli Denny one reads: "Mr. William Welch, and I favored the name of High Point for this locality, but there were other citizens who wanted the name to be Bloomington."

At that time Bloomington was a prosperous little village with a United States Post Office, located south and just off of what is now the Asheboro Highway—three miles from the intersection of the plank road and the railroad tracks. No doubt the nearness of this little village, with its established post office had points in favor of the name being Bloomington. After many meetings though, and much discussion, it was finally decided to call the place High Point—High Point because the locality of it was the highest point on the North

Carolina Railroad, between Charlotte and Goldsboro, and where the Fayetteville and Western plank road crossed it.

In a period of less than ten years there had sprung up this thriving little town of High Point—a town destined to be favorably known throughout the Nation, and in time throughout the World.

Many years have passed since Mr. Hitchcock made this momentous decision—what a difference nearly two hundred years can make! Since those early pioneer days great changes have come in the order of things. Industrialism flourishes, and beautiful homes stand on the land which was once meadows and primeval forests of oak, chestnut, and poplar. And, instead of the lowing herds of buffalo, as they roamed the meadows, there may now be heard the distant drone of airplanes and jets, as they pass overhead, and the sound of buzzers and whistles as they call man to his place by the machine.

The world goes on—few mindful of the great change in the order of things.



CHRONOLOGY OF MINISTERS

1859 - 1959

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

High Point, North Carolina

REV. P. H. DALTON	{ 1859 to 1866
	{ 1874 to 1889
DR. F. H. JOHNSTON	1867 to 1872
REV. W. B. TIDBALL	1872 to 1874
REV. W. P. McCORKLE	1889 to 1891
REV. J. C. DINWIDDIE	1891 to 1893
REV. P. H. DALTON AND REV. JOHN WAKEFIELD	1893 to 1895
REV. WILLIAM LEE HARRELL	1895 to 1897
REV. J. W. GOODMAN	1898 to 1901
REV. A. S. CALDWELL	{ 1901 to 1903
	{ 1909 to 1913
REV. EUGENE L. SILER	1903 to 1909
REV. CHARLES P. COBLE	1913 to 1930
DR. CHARLES H. NABERS	1930 to 1932
DR. JOSEPH RENNIE	1932 to 1935
DR. O. C. WILLIAMSON	1936 to 1944
DR. PAUL TUDOR JONES	1945 to 1951
DR. ROY EDWARD WATTS	1951 to present



OUR FIRST MEETING PLACE

PART ONE

HISTORY OF FIRST SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS

1859 - 1934

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

High Point, North Carolina

By

OCTAVIA JORDAN PERRY





CHARTER ELDER ELI DENNY

CHAPTER I

PRESBYTERIAN FAITH ENTERS HIGH POINT

During the period of years from 1812 to 1861, the United States enjoyed a great season of National peace and material prosperity. It was near the close of this period, September 3, 1859, that the Presbyterian Church in High Point, North Carolina, was founded.

From 1748 the vicinity around High Point had been predominantly Quaker, but there were mixed among these Friends those who did not adhere entirely to the Quaker belief. The first spark of Presbyterianism ever recorded in the City of High Point was about the date November 9, 1853, when Eli Denny purchased a tract of land and moved his family to this locality. Mr. Denny was a staunch Presbyterian, able to trace his fore-fathers back to William Rankin, who fled from Scotland to Ulster, Ireland, in 1688—thence to America.

In 1764 some of the descendents of William Rankin found their way into North Carolina, and bought a farm on the north bank of Buffalo Creek, nine miles from Greensboro. Soon after coming to North Carolina, the maternal grandfather of Eli joined the Buffalo Presbyterian Church, which had been organized there in 1756. And, there he and his children sat at the feet of that great preacher, patriot, and doctor—David Caldwell—and learned the right way of living.

Eli Denny was the son of Hannah Rankin Denny, and Thomas Denny. Hannah was the daughter of a descendent of William Rankin—the mother of nine children, the oldest of which was Eli. Not too much is known about the early life of this Eli, but he must have received some of his religious training and education from Doctor David Caldwell, for Doctor Caldwell was pastor of the Buffalo Creek Presbyterian Church until 1820. Because of this close association of his father, with Doctor Caldwell, and his brief association with him as a lad, it is no small wonder that Eli Denny should be vitally interested in establishing a Presbyterian Church in the village he had chosen as home.

As early as the year 1857, when there were only 590 people living in High Point, the Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton, a highly educated, devout, and lovable man, cast his lot with Mr. Denny in an untiring effort to establish a Presbyterian Church in the village.

It was no easy task—this founding of a church. Much foot-work, as well as prayers was required, but with the determined faith of their Scottish ancestors this task was undertaken.

The first thing that had to be done was to ascertain how many people there were living in and around the community interested in establishing a Presbyterian church. When Mr. Denny told his wife Margaret about the need for such a survey, she readily agreed to help make it. The survey was started, but as it progressed many strange things happened—some heartening to the surveyors, and some disheartening and irritating. In this last category there is a legend told, however not verified, about how one felt about the Presbyterian Faith in this Quaker stronghold.

After Eli and Margaret Denny set out to find out how many souls there were in this strong Quaker Community, that were sympathetic with their Faith, they found a few. But, among those that were not, they found a dear old dyed-in-the-wool-Quaker, who felt the call to express disdain for the Denny's faith, and so he did.

This old Quaker had no patience with a faith that had all the frills he felt the Presbyterians put in their worship services. He was so strong in his disdain for the Denny's faith that he began speaking of the Dennys as "Old Pris B, and Mistress Terian."

Several years passed. Then this same old Quaker's daughter was found guilty of an infraction of a Quaker tenet. She was stubborn and would not repent. She was dismissed from the Quaker Meeting and in time became a member of the Presbyterian Church in the village.

His daughter's joining this church irked the old Quaker and by no means lessened his ardent denouncement of that faith. It even seemed he was more against it than ever, and he made a point of calling this fact to his daughter's attention often. One day, when he continued to do so, and she had grown weary of courteously listening to his tirades, she tossed her head and retorted, "Now, now Father! That is just enough from Thee! It is plain that Thee dos't not understand the Faith of we Pris-be-terians."

Previous to this survey Malcolm Shaw, who claimed much the same Scottish heritage as the Dennys, had been located and he was vitally interested in the establishing of a Presbyterian Church in the village. Then in the survey they found that, though Robert English Blair, a professor, had been born a Quaker, he was also interested

in the founding of a Presbyterian Church. In time others were found with like interest, so a site was secured upon which a Presbyterian Church building might be erected. The lot was located on the north side of what is now English Street, between Main and Elm Streets—east of where the Alexander home now stands. While there is no record to substantiate such an idea, it is believed that the lot was given to the church by Eli Denny—donated by him because it lay adjacent to his home.

“The groves were God’s first temples,” and so was an Old Oak tree that stood on the Presbyterian church site. This Old Oak tree was the first place of worship for the Presbyterians in High Point. It was a majestic thing—a cathedral built by Divine hands, upon which no bonded indebtedness ever rested—a monument to the past and an inspiration for the years to come. Beneath this old tree, on improvised benches of slabs, the congregation, which was often more of other faiths than Presbyterians, sat and listened to the inspiring spiritual messages from the lips of the Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton, and sang the songs of Zion unaccompanied, as Frank L. Stanton expresses it:

“We never needed singing books in them
old days—We knew

The words, the tunes of every one—the dear old hymn
book through;

We didn’t have no trumpets then, no organs built
for show,

We only sang to praise the Lord, ‘from whom all
blessings flow’.”

Beginning with the year 1857 the Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton’s interest was primarily centered in High Point, and he moved his family here, but he had another interest—teaching, so for a time he continued to teach school in Madison, N. C.

About the time Mr. Dalton moved his family to this locality the Methodist Episcopal Congregation completed its church building. They did not have a full time pastor so they invited the Reverend Dalton to hold services in their church on any Sabbath when they were not holding services. Mr. Dalton accepted their gracious invitation and on the Sundays, when the weather would not permit holding services under the Big Oak Tree he held them in the Methodist Church. His doing this drew the two denominations very close

together—drew them so close that at times it seemed there was but one congregation with two pastors.

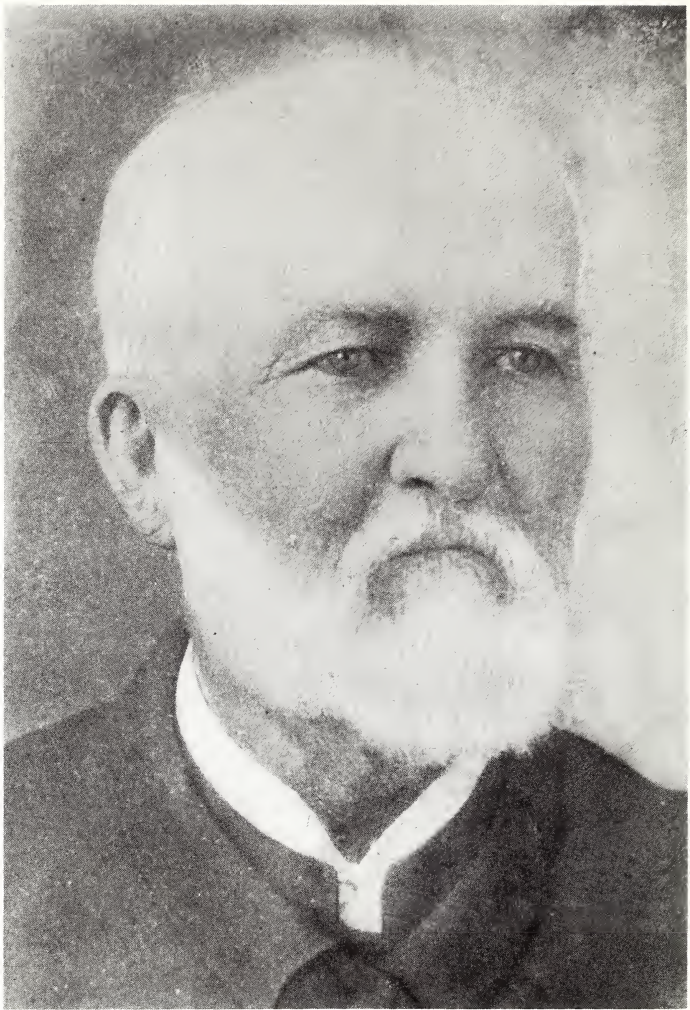
As early as funds permitted, work on the Presbyterian Church building was started. It was an unpretentious structure built of boards sawed from virgin trees that had grown nearby, and when completed found to have cost \$1234. This was indeed a low cost for such a building, even at that time, but a great deal of labor on it was done by Eli Denny and his two sons, William P. and Washington C. One of the older citizens of High Point remembers hearing her father, who was a close friend of the Dennys tell how untiringly he and his sons worked on this building.

During the time the church was being built, and after it was completed, the congregation was the recipient of a number of useful gifts. One was a two-hundred and ten pound bell which came to the church on February 15, 1859, as a gift from Mr. W. L. Springs; a pulpit Bible, hymn books, and silver communion service were also received as gifts, but time has lost the names of the donors of these last gifts. The bell when purchased by Mr. Springs from Joseph Benard and Company, Bell Founders, cost him seventy-seven dollars and forty cents. This bell was, not only a good one but a sweet toned bell. And, today it still does service as it hangs from the belfry tower in our church home, on the corner of East Parkway and North Main Street, calling out to all those in hearing distance that the Presbyterian Faith in High Point, N. C. is still a living Faith.





THE FIRST HOME OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



THE REVEREND PLEASANT HUNTER DALTON

CHAPTER II

THE FIRST PASTORATE OF THE REVEREND PLEASANT HUNTER DALTON

1859 - 1866

By the middle of the month of August 1859, the first Presbyterian church building in High Point was completed and ready for the congregation to begin making use of it. With the help of the Reverend Archibald Currie and the Reverend J. H. Smith, the Reverend Mr. Dalton, on September 3, 1859, organized the first Presbyterian Church in High Point. It was organized with the following eleven Charter Members: Eli Denny, Mrs. Margaret H. Denny, Malcolm Shaw, A. G. Foster, Mrs. Letitia Foster, Robert English Blair, Mrs. Eliza Dalton, all by certificates, and Miss Maggie Lynn, Mrs. Rebecca Sechrest, William P. Denny, and Washington C. Denny on examination and profession of faith.

On the next day, after the organization of this church, which was Sunday, a service was held in the new building, followed by a congregational meeting. At this meeting Eli Denny and Malcolm Shaw were elected Ruling Elders, and Robert English Blair was elected a Deacon. After these men were ordained and installed into their respective offices, the building was dedicated to the glory and worship of the Almighty God, by the Pastor, assisted by the Reverend Archibald Currie, and the Reverend J. H. Smith. When the dedicatory service was over, the congregation enjoyed a sweet and solemn hour at which time the Lord's Supper was administered.

Before and after the completion of its church building, this church had been the recipient of many useful gifts, but not fortunate enough to have received an organ. It needed one, but the thought of buying one was out of the question for those interested in the building of the church had already done all they financially could—The Praise to God would have to be sung unaccompanied when the church was organized. It seemed to Mrs. Dalton, the wife of the Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton, out of the question to organize and dedicate a church without some other form of music than human voices. She was a music teacher and owned both an organ and piano, so she had her organ put in the church building for this occasion. This organ then remained in the sanctuary until Mr. Dalton's first pastorate was terminated.

The dedication of the church did not mean that all organization-



CHARTER ELDER MALCOM SHAW



CHARTER DEACON

R. ENGLISH BLAIR

al arrangements were complete; there were yet offices to be filled. The church in order to exist must have financial aid and if financial aid was to be obtained there must be some one competent to handle the church's money. The children of the church must be given religious training so a leader of this work must be appointed. Elder Eli Denny was singled out as the one for both of these offices and thus he became the first Treasurer of the church, and the first Superintendent of the Sunday School. There was still another important place to be filled, for with any company, corporation, or organization there comes a time when business transactions must be handled. It was necessary to choose men from the membership to look after such matters. Eli Denny, Sewell Farlow, and A. G. Foster were appointed as Trustees of the Church.

The first people to join the church after its organization were Mrs. Ellen Thurston, on October 16, 1859, by certificate from the Greensboro Presbyterian Church, and on that same day Bartlett Y. Hunt and his wife, Mrs. Ann Hunt, by profession of their faith.

There were no children baptized into the church until April 14, 1860, then the following were baptized: Enoss Edward Hunt, Harriett Emalie Hunt, Robert Pleasant Hunt, William Elliott Thurston, and Mary Ellen Thurston.

When the church was a little over six months old, the time came to make a report to Orange Presbytery of the progress it had made; so a report was tabulated and Elder Malcom Shaw was chosen as a delegate to represent the High Point Church at the first meeting of Presbytery and Synod to convene, since the church was founded.

No record is made in the Session Minutes as to what time Sewell Farlow joined the church; but it must have been prior to February 19, 1860, for in the Session Minutes on that date is recorded: "Edward (servant of Sewell Farlow) presented himself as a candidate for church privileges and after a satisfactory examination on experimental religion was received as a member of the church, and at eleven o'clock was publicly baptized in the House of God by the Reverend Mr. Dalton."

From the founding of the church for a period of about two years there were at almost every Session Meeting one, two, and sometimes three candidates for church membership, either by certificate or by profession of their faith. By the end of the year, 1861, the membership had grown from eleven to thirty-two. Of this number there were two negro slaves, George Washington, servant of the Reverend Mr. Dalton, and Edward, the servant of Sewell Farlow.

During the early life of the church, the congregation was often privileged and delighted by being permitted to listen to soul-stirring sermons preached by some of the best pastors of the day and time. On Sunday, October 6, 1860, the congregation was given the pleasure of hearing the Reverend J. B. Shearer, D.D., of Chapel Hill, North Carolina. On this same Sunday the Session met, and appointed Elder Eli Denny to attend both Presbytery at Greensboro on October 18, and Synod at Statesville on October 24.

This meeting of the Synod which met at Statesville on October 24, 1860, had as its moderator the Reverend R. H. Lafferty, and sixty-one members and fifty Ruling Elders were present. The Synod at this time was composed of three Presbyteries, ninety-two ministers, one hundred and eighty-four churches, and a membership of 15,600. Of this Synod meeting the Reverend D. I. Craig says in his book *Development of the Presbyterian Church in North Carolina*: "When this meeting of Synod adjourned at Statesville, North Carolina, on October 27, 1860, the members of that body, perhaps did not dream, much less think, that the last meeting of the Synod of North Carolina, under the old system and in connection with the old Assembly, had been held; that the last hymn had been sung and the last prayer offered, and that a national crisis was at hand, and that before they should meet again the whole country would be in the throes of an unprecedented Civil War!"

The first report of a year's work recorded in the Session Minutes, as sent up to Presbytery, was that recorded June 13, 1861, which reads as follows:

From the Statistical report for the church year 1860-1861 we find that there were four members added to the church roll by examination, three by certificate, two colored communicants, fourteen adults were baptized and fourteen infants. Total white communicants, twenty-eight. There were thirty-five children enrolled in the Sabbath School, and the church had contributed for missions \$32, for Congregational purposes \$125, and for other expenditures enough to make the total of monies disbursed during the year \$211.

On October 6, 1861, Elder Malcom Shaw was appointed by the Session as a delegate to attend the meeting of the Presbytery at Oakland and the meeting of the Synod at Raleigh. There is again no record that Elder Shaw or any one else attended these meetings; however, if the appellation, "The Faithful One," applied to him by Elder Eli Denny was correct, one must believe that he attended these meetings.

From previous history it is learned that during the year, 1860, and earlier, divisions had developed in most of the religious faiths in the United States over the great question of slavery. Up to November 1, 1861, when the Synod of North Carolina met in Raleigh, the Presbyterian Church (Old School) in the United States had stemmed the tide, and it was hoped by all that it would continue to do so. This was not to be, however, for before this meeting of the Synod, the General Assembly had adopted a paper, known as the "*Gardiner Spring Resolution*." It called upon all Presbyterians, North or South, to support the Federal Government in Washington in its conflicts with the States which had seceded. It was impossible for the Presbyterians of this Synod to do this; so on this memorable day, November 1, 1861, when that august body convened in Raleigh, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas the country is involved in a bloody internecine war, the desolations of which threaten our citizens, and sacrifices of which have affected the church of our beloved State; and

"Whereas by the tyranny and usurpation of the government at Washington, the safeguards of the Constitution have been broken down, threatening all that is dear in civil liberty and all that is precious in the inheritance received from our fathers; and

"Whereas the several Presbyteries composing this Synod have in view of these deeds, as well as in view of the extraordinary endorsement of them by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, requiring us and our churches to approve and to pray for the success of measures so tyrannical and iniquitous, formally and solemnly dissolved all connection with said General Assembly, declaring, however, their steadfast adherence in all respects to the *Confession of Faith, Catechisms, Forms of Government, Book of Discipline* and *Directory of Worship of the Presbyterian Church*, and have severally appointed delegates to meet at Atlanta, Georgia, and, with other commissioners from the several Presbyteries of the South, then and there to constitute and form a General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the Confederate States of America. Therefore, in the fear of God and under a solemn sense of duty, be it

"Resolved, by the Synod of North Carolina, I. That the Synod intelligently, cordially, solemnly approves the action of its several Presbyteries in the premises.

"2. That the Synod, set and appointed by her Divine Head as

a witness for the right and for truth, deeply, truly sympathizes with the State and with the Confederate States in their present righteous struggle, and cordially approves their action in asserting and maintaining their sovereignty and severing the ties that bound us and them to the late United States of America.

"3. That the Synod regards the present war on our part as a war of defense, commending itself to our people's efforts, prayers, and hearts, as a hallowed, though stern contest for sacred rights involving homes and altars, liberty and religion, and to it we solemnly, prayerfully commit our persons and efforts and energies and property, our sons and lives.

"4. That the Synod recognize, and here with gratitude records the tokens of Divine favor extended to our struggling, bleeding country, leading our hosts in the day of battle, shielding them under fearful peril, and giving them brilliant victories, for all of which we desire to present fervent and unceasing thanksgiving.

"5. That the Synod would embrace this momentous crisis in our country's history, to urge pastors, elders, private Christians and our whole people to the offering of unceasing prayers in behalf of the Confederate States, in this present noble struggle in defense of constitutional liberty, beseeching our Covenant God and Father to lead our armies, to drive back our enemies, and early to enable us in His fear and love to achieve a new nation's greatness."

On January 23, 1862, a prorenata meeting of the Presbytery convened in the High Point Presbyterian Church and Elder Malcom Shaw who had been appointed a delegate represented this church with Elder Eli Denny as the alternate. No doubt they were both present along with a large number of other members of the congregation. Just what was accomplished at this prorenata meeting of Presbytery is not included in the records of the church; but without a doubt there were discussions as to what were the right steps for the churches to take, in order that they might be of the most service to the State in face of the existing Civil War. There is a chance that at this same meeting plans for the education of the Presbyterian children, orphaned by the war, were discussed, for at the next meeting of the Synod the Reverend Neil McKay offered a resolution that each of the Presbyteries appoint three men to collect and disburse funds for the education of the children of deceased soldiers.

From the beginning of the Civil War, for a period of ten years, or more, the Presbyterian Church in High Point had a real struggle for existence—a struggle for existence, although the church

services and prayer meetings were being well attended, and an unwonted spirit of prayer, closely connected with a profound sense of dependence upon Divine Providence had become apparent with every one.

Sometime near the beginning of the month of March 1864, a revival service was held in the Church. The Reverend Frontis Howe Johnston was the visiting Evangelist, and although the awful realities of war pressed hard upon the people, it did seem that there was a marvelous religious awakening resulting from this revival.

While there was this religious awakening in the church, by some there were others who, though religiously inclined, were physically weak under the existing conditions. When the irregularities in the lives of these church members were reported, it became the duty of the Session to call to the attention of these sinners their errors, and to discipline them if they did not repent. From the minutes of the Session during the year 1862 there is recorded an account of one of the Session's investigations. The offender was a prominent church member, but he had offended. He must submit to the Church's Trial.

The offender admitted his sin and wrote the Session that he would cheerfully submit to whatever course the Session decided upon for punishment.

The Session unanimously suspended the offender from the Church for a period of six months.

Another case of discipline which is recorded in the Session Minutes, was that of another member. On February 25, 1865, he was charged with profanity, and other unchristian conduct. He was suspended from membership in the church for a year, or until he showed signs of repentance.

Once again, on May 27, 1866, another member of the church was cited by the Session for irregularities. Elder Malcom Shaw was appointed to visit him and talk with this member in regard to his non-attendance of church, and to admonish him to fulfill his christian duties.

The Synod of North Carolina which met in Greensboro in 1864 did very little routine business. However, it did formulate and adopt and address to the churches and a paper on the state of the country. In this paper there were enumerated some of the terrible results of the war, and it called loudly on the people "for humiliation and prayer." There was a day designated, November 16, 1864, for the people to humble themselves and devoutly pray to God that this

cruel war might soon be over and that peace might reign again over all the land. The church in High Point, believing in the power of prayer, and wishing to unite with the other churches of the Synod in any way possible to bring to a close this mad conflict, observed this designated day. Before another meeting of Synod rolled around, these great united prayers, which had been sent up from a tear-stained altar had been heard and were answered. The four terrible years covering the Civil War were now history.

Up to the year 1866 the church had no changes in its official family, but now it seemed wise that an additional elder be added; so Deacon Robert English Blair was promoted to the office of Ruling Elder, thus making three Elders and no Deacons in the church.

The church building which Mr. Dalton had helped to erect and dedicate to the Glory of Almighty God had already, in a great many instances served in other worth while capacities. It had played an important part in the life of the community, serving on many occasions as a place for the citizenship of the village to hold community gatherings, and discuss things of vital importance. It was also one of the buildings in the village which served as a hospital, for the sick and wounded soldiers, near the close of the War between the States. As proof of this statement the following is found in the Session Minutes of March 25, 1865: "The church being filled with sick and wounded soldiers the Session met at the home of Elder Eli Denny."

The remaining days of Mr. Dalton's pastorate in High Point were busy ones, but no record is left to say just what was accomplished. His first ministry in the city lasted from September 3, 1859, to April 1, 1867, and for his services the salary varied from year to year. For the first year nothing is recorded; but, from a report to the Presbytery on June 13, 1861, one deduces this fact, that during the year just closed, March 31, 1861, he received \$125. For the following year the report sent to the Presbytery for pastor's salary was \$150, then in the report of the Session to the Presbytery for the year closing March 31, 1864, there accompanied the statistical report, a report entitled, "Reciprocal Duties." It reads: "I have received about \$660 for services as Stated Supply of the church at High Point during the past years. Signed P. H. Dalton, Stated Supply.

This last amount reported was quite a jump in salary over the previous years, and it probably may be accounted for from the fact that the Civil War had placed confederate money as a medium of exchange in the Southern States, and it was plentiful about this time. After the war was over, Mr. Dalton's salary for the year end-



MRS. ELLEN HEDGECOCK ENGLISH

ing March, 1866 was \$198, which is the last recorded amount paid Mr. Dalton during his first pastorate in the High Point Church.

The first period of the Reverend Mr. Dalton's ministry came to a close, and it was indeed with a deep sense of their loss that the members of the congregation bade him adieu. He held the love and respect of all the village, and during his sojourn of ten years in High Point the Reverend P. H. Dalton started a work, not of spectacular nature or of mammoth dimensions, but one destined to grow into power for the upbuilding of the community and the Glory of God.

It is interesting, here at the close of the first eight years of the High Point Presbyterian Church's life, to note that besides the eleven Charter Members there had been added to the church roll thirty-seven names, by profession of faith and examination, and thirteen by letter. Among this number there were listed such names as: Mrs. Ellen English, Mr. Sewell Farlow, Mrs. Charity G. Shaw, Mr. J. M. Sechrest, Miss Laura Wiley, Mrs. Isabell C. Wiley, Mr. William M. Wiley, and three negro slaves. These slaves were: George W. Dalton, slave of the Pleasant Hunter Daltons, Edward Farlow, slave of the Sewell Farlows, and Jane Holt.

BIOGRAPHY OF
THE REVEREND PLEASANT HUNTER DALTON

1821 - 1896

The Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton, son of Nicholas and Rachel Dalton, was born on March 4, 1821, in Rockingham County, North Carolina—the youngest child in a family of thirteen children. Little is known of his early education, but it is supposed to have been obtained in the little school house next to the Presbyterian church he attended. In those days our forefathers held to the belief that where ever a Presbyterian settlement existed, and a pastor was living, that there should be a school house nearby. More is known though about his higher education, for it is recorded that he attended the University of North Carolina, Princeton, and Union Theological Seminary.

In April of the year 1847, Mr. Dalton was licensed by Orange Presbytery to preach. In December of the next year, 1848, he was ordained by the Concord Presbytery and became Stated Supply and then Pastor of Bethany and Tabor churches. During the year 1850 Mr. Dalton did missionary work in Anson County and the following year, 1851, again resumed his pastoral work. This time he served as pastor of the Fourth Creek and Bethesda Presbyterian Churches. At the same time he was serving these two churches as Pastor he was also teaching school at Madison, N. C. Records show that his pastoral relations with these two churches lasted until 1856, and that his work, as teacher, in Madison continued until 1858. No doubt this period of two years lapsing between this last pastorate, and the founding of the High Point Church was devoted to much basic work regarding the establishment of the High Point church.

In the year 1859 Mr. Dalton became Evangelist of Orange Presbytery and in that same year, on September the third, founded the Presbyterian Church of High Point and became its Stated Supply Pastor. He successfully filled the office of Evangelist of Orange Presbytery until the year 1866 when he accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church at Washington, North Carolina. He served in Washington until 1874 when he became Agent of Orange Presbytery for Davidson College. In 1875 he returned to High Point and again served it as a State Supply Pastor. While he was Stated Supply this second time he also served the Durham, Chapel Hill, and New Hope, North Carolina, Presbyterian Churches. This Stated Supply pastorate in High Point, though was terminated in 1881 when Mr. Dalton was called as Pastor to it for one-fourth of his time. This

same year, 1881, he organized the Jamestown Presbyterian Church and was part time pastor of it until 1889.

When the year 1889 came, and Mr. Dalton had in all rounded out twenty-two years of service in High Point, he resigned to accept a call to the Presbyterian Church of Mocksville, North Carolina. There he served until his death on July 22, 1896.

During the last years of his life Mr. Dalton, more than once, returned to High Point and supplied its pulpit—The High Point Church was truly his child, and if it were in his power he was always glad to do a service for it.

When death finally came to this grand old man it was only natural that his family should bring his body home to High Point. Here in the little church he loved so well his body lay in state and his funeral services were conducted from it—from it his body was also carried by loving hands and laid to rest in the Oakwood Cemetery to await that final summons, from his Master whom he loved and had served so well.

The Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton was married to Miss Eliza Mitchel Carter of Mocksville, N. C., who survived him by twelve years. To this union there were born four sons who grew to manhood: Archie Carter, Robert Frank, Pleasant Hunter, and William Spencer. Archie Carter, the eldest son early dedicated his life to the Gospel Ministry and in the year 1876 was nearing the completion of his course at the Union Theological Seminary, in Richmond, when he was suddenly taken sick and died. The other three sons have passed away, but there remains decendents of them now prominently connected with the Presbyterian Churches in High Point. These are: Grandsons, Mr. Carter Dalton, elder in the First Presbyterian Church, Pleasant Hunter Dalton, III, elder in the Crestwood Presbyterian Church; two great-grandsons, Pleasant Hunter Dalton, IV, deacon in the First Presbyterian Church, and Robert Franklin Dalton, Jr., associate deacon in this same church; three great-great-grandsons, R. Frank Dalton, III, P. Hunter Dalton, IV, and David Andrews Dalton; and two great-great grand-daughters, Lucinda Cathrine Dalton, and Mary Beth Dalton.

Quoting from a clipping taken from the scrapbook of a citizen of High Point, during the Reverend Dalton's day and time: "The memory of Reverend Mr. P. H. Dalton will ever linger sacredly in the hearts of our people. All who knew him were irresistibly drawn in affection to him, and though not a member of his church, I loved him as a brother. He was a faithful and exemplary Christian Gentleman, always working for the Master's Cause."



THE REVEREND FRONTIS HOWE JOHNSTON, D.D.

CHAPTER III

THE PASTORATE OF THE REVEREND FRONTIS HOWE JOHNSTON, D.D.

1867 - 1872

The decision of Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton to accept a call to Washington, N. C., came as quite a blow to the High Point Presbyterians. Since they couldn't have Reverend Dalton as their Pastor they knew it was imperative that they have a leader so they asked Mr. Dalton for a suggestion as to whom they might get to take his place. Mr. Dalton knew that the Reverend Frontis Howe Johnston, who had previously conducted a revival at the church, was available. He suggested his name. Mr. Johnston was called and accepted the pastorate of the church for one-fourth time at an annual salary of \$100.00.

In order to know and appreciate the services rendered the church by the Reverend Frontis Howe Johnston, during his pastorate in High Point, it is necessary to understand the conditions under which the church and its membership labored. In order to do this one must take a look at the existing state of affairs in North Carolina, as well as in the High Point Church. The war was indeed over, but the people were suffering as much, if not more, than during the actual conflict. A military government had been set up over the people, administered by aliens; men who were not in sympathy with the suffering in the South. These defeated people of the Confederacy were being made to drink bitter dregs and to feel the heel of oppression upon them. A reign of terror, trying to the souls of men had spread over all the land; their homes lay desolate; their property was gone, and in most cases their loved ones lay silent and dead. The negro slave was free, but left by his liberators to shift for himself, homeless and in a perplexed state of mind.

In addition to these deplorable conditions the High Point Church was having difficulties of its own. When the war began it was an infant hardly able to stand alone, and the prolonged period of hardships through which it had just passed had left it barely existing. Then came the resignation of its pastor, the Reverend P. H. Dalton, and for the past period of approximately six months it had floundered about shepherdless, making no progress and in many ways still losing ground.

From all points of view the picture, into which the Reverend Mr. Johnston was invited to come, bore a rather dismal appearance. However, when called he accepted and became actively connected with the church on October 5, 1867. In accepting the call Mr. Johnston made it clear that he would retain his home in Lexington, North Carolina, for he was already established there and would continue to serve the church there in connection with his work in High Point.

When it became known to the membership that Mr. Johnston had accepted the call extended him a new spirit seemed to permeate the congregation, although they felt that his living out of the village and coming to High Point for one Sunday out of each month would mean little in comparison to what the church needed.

From the founding of the church to the present pastorate there had been no changes in the officers of the church, except that Deacon Blair had been promoted to the office of Elder. The total membership in the church was forty-two, although during the eight years since its organization there had been added to the church roll on certificate twelve and by examination thirty-eight. The small enrollment was in keeping with the times. The uncertain conditions and the restless spirit felt everywhere in the South had caused many of the weary people in their perplexed state of mind to move from one community to another in a search for Utopia.

Soon after assuming the work in the church the Reverend F. H. Johnston began to cast about trying to discern if possible what might be done to alleviate the unsatisfactory conditions existing everywhere. He soon recommended to the Session that there be taken a special collection each service which would go to the benevolent causes. In so far as the church members were able, this collection was a success, and the congregation as a whole was well pleased with the way the new pastor was taking hold of things. They also recognized in him a sympathetic soul and were glad that they had chosen him to lead them during such trying days.

The Synod met at New Bern in the fall of 1867 and Elder Eli Denny was named by the Session as a delegate to represent the church. At this meeting the Synod fully recognized the conditions of the State, and its addresses to the churches were full of affectionate council and admonitions—it called upon the people of the churches to pray and to arise and rebuild the waste places which lay in the wake of the recent war.

From the report sent to the Presbytery by the church for the year ending March 31, 1868, it is not clearly stated just what salary the Reverend Mr. Johnston was paid for his services as the Stated Supply pastor, but it is known not to have exceeded \$124, for that was the amount reported as congregational expenses for the year. The total amount of money paid into the treasurer for the year was \$148.

In order to accomplish the most good, both spiritually and financially, it was necessary that the pastor and officers know the existing state of the church. Up to July 5, 1868, there had been no detailed report on resources and contributions; so on this date the Session named Elder Denny and Elder Shaw, as a committee to make out such a report. At the next Session Meeting, held on August 14, 1868, Elder Eli Denny, and Elder Malcom Shaw presented the following report and it was ordered spread on the Session Minutes: Number of Communicants, 37; number enrolled in Sunday School, 36, of this number 18 were members of the Bible Class taught by Mr. J. H. Brooks; County and State Tax for Current Year, including Poll Tax, \$75.55; Average Tax for Communicant, \$2.05; Paid for the Support of the Pastor and Benevolent Causes of Church, \$148.00; Average Contribution Per Communicant, \$3.43; Amount Contributed by Non-communicants, \$21,00; Amount Promised Pastor for Current Year, \$100.00; Amount Paid Pastor for Current Year, \$00.00; and First Installment Due on Pastor's Salary, October 1, 1868.

During the remaining months of the church year, which ended March 31, 1869, nothing of unusual interest was recorded.

To attend the Spring meeting of Orange Presbytery, the Session appointed Elder Denny, to attend the meeting of North Carolina Synod Elder Shaw. From the report made at this same Session meeting, it was found that the Church's membership had decreased to thirty-five; however, the Sunday School still seemed to be active, with an enrollment of forty-five. The finances of the Church were in a grave condition. The Pastor's salary had not been paid. Dr. Johnston had been promised a salary of one hundred dollars a year for one-fourth of his time, but he had received only eighty-eight dollars. The total amount of money received by the Treasurer for the year had been only one hundred and twenty-seven dollars. Something was vitally wrong. Could it be due to the fact that there were no Deacon's in the Church?

If the absence of Deacons in the Church was responsible for

the financial conditions, it did not seem to impress the Elders, for it was not until a year later, April 13, 1870, that the Session decided to call a Congregational Meeting to elect Deacons. This meeting was to be held on Saturday, April 30, 1870, for the purpose of electing Deacons, if the way was open. "The way was open," and the congregational meeting was held as duly ordered on this date, with the following church members elected Deacons: Washington C. Denny, and William T. Rankin, who had joined the church on October 5, 1867.

With services held in the church only one Sunday a month, the year passed without any happenings worthy of recording. There had, as a matter of fact, been very little accomplished in the Church, as shown in the report of the year ending March 31, 1870. The congregation at this time consisted of thirty-five members, only one having been added during the year, and this one by certificate. No infants had been baptized. The Sunday School and Bible Classes enrollment totaled only thirty-six, and for the entire year only one-hundred and ten dollars had been received by the Treasurer for all church causes. The Pastor's salary was again only partially paid—he had only received eighty-two of the one-hundred dollars he had been promised.

During the following church year, 1870-1871, a slight increase in the membership took place, and a small increase in the financial situation encouraged the congregation and gave a more hopeful and gratifying feeling to the church. Within this year three members were added to the church roll on examination and eight by certificate. The total number of communicants were forty-five, and the number enrolled in the Bible Class and Sunday School were fifty.

While the membership had made a noticeable increase the financial status was not so encouraging. The pastor's salary actually paid to him for his year's service was only seventy-two dollars, a cut of ten dollars in the amount received by him for the previous year; however, the total amount paid into the treasury showed an increase of nine dollars over the year before.

From the Session's report sent to Presbytery for the year ending March 31, 1872, it was found that one member had been added to the church membership on examination and two by certificate. The total communicants of the church were now forty-two. There were fifty-five members in the Sunday School and Bible Class. The pastor's salary paid for this year was seventy-three dollars, an in-

crease of one dollar over the reported amount paid him the year before.

Evidently the officers, as well as the membership, of the church were very much chagrined over their inability to pay their pastor the salary promised him. Something had to be done. If the amount promised the Reverend Mr. Johnston as salary, one hundred dollars per year, was more than the church could meet, then the consensus of opinion was to reduce it to such a figure that it could actually be paid. A Session meeting was held on May 5, 1872, at which time a resolution was passed fixing the Reverend F. H. Johnston's salary at seventy-five dollars a year for one-fourth of his time as Stated Supply Pastor.

It is not so stated but one draws the conclusion that, from the happenings at this Session meeting, Dr. Johnston was very much upset. The hopes he had cherished of some day being paid in full were blighted. Many times he had asked for support from the officers and members of the church and had been unable to secure it. He was not able to keep the spiritual life of the church on that plane necessary for it to go forward when he was at the church only one Sunday in each month. If he could neither expect support or sustenance, there was only one course for him, so he resigned.

His sudden resignation came as quite a shock to the whole community, and sorely grieved the citizenship. High Point had not had the opportunity of claiming Dr. Johnston as a citizen, but it had known him during his brief trips to the village for the past five years, and all of the intellectual citizenship had grown to look forward to the first Sunday in each month when he so ably preached and mingled among them.

As far as the membership was concerned the Presbyterians had lost in number at the close of Dr. Johnston's pastorate, but it had made great strides in other ways—ways in which there is no yardstick to measure. The services he had rendered the church, in the Master's name were legion. It was a great fete to even hold the church together during the frightful reconstruction days through which the Nation had just been passing.

During the years that the Reverend Johnston had served the High Point Church, there had been added to the roll seventeen by letter, and four upon profession of faith and examination. (Among those joining the church during this time appear such names as Miss Eliza Fisher (Mrs. P. B. Rodgers) and Mr. William Thomas Ran-



MISS ELIZA FISHER (*Mrs. Philip Rodgers*)

kin). With these additions it did indeed seem strange, but it was a fact, that at the time of Reverend Frontis Howe Johnston's resignation the membership of the church was smaller than when he came. This was due of course to the restlessness of the after war years.



BIOGRAPHY OF

THE REVEREND FRONTIS HOWE JOHNSTON, D.D.

1834 - 1901

Frontis Howe Johnston, D.D., a son of the Reverend Thomas Pickney Johnston and Mary Howe Johnston, missionaries to Asia Minor, was born in Constantinople, August 8, 1834. He was a scion of sturdy Scotch-Irish settlers of upper Rowan county, North Carolina—the Johnstons, Halls, and other families long prominent in that region. From these families there had already sprung in the past, many useful ministers of the Presbyterian faith. Frontis was named for a beloved friend of the family, the Reverend Stephen Frontis, and the maiden name of his mother was added.

The first sixteen years of young Frontis Howe's life was spent with his parents in Constantinople, Aintab, Trebizond, Smyrna, and other places in Asia Minor. From his parents he received his early, and preparatory education for college, and from the natives a conversational knowledge of Modern Greek.

In 1851 he was sent to North Carolina, the home state of his parents, and entered Davidson College. From this institution he graduated in 1855 with first honors, and the distinction of being chosen to deliver the valedictory oration. This same year he entered the Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, and completed the course there in 1858. He was licensed as a probationer for the ministry by Concord Presbytery, at Bethpage Church on Friday, May 14, 1858.

For nearly a year he served the Philadelphia Church in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, then was dismissed to the care of Orange Presbytery, April 14, 1859. On July 30, 1859, he was ordained to the full work of the ministry and installed as pastor of the Lexington, North Carolina Church, by Orange Presbytery. Here he served for sixteen years.

In 1860, Dr. Johnston began to preach, occasionally in what was then the new town of Winston, North Carolina, and later, on October 4, 1862, he organized a church there. This little church grew under his guidance, and by 1873 he began to divide his time equally between the Lexington and Winston churches. Prior to this, from 1867 to 1872 Dr. Johnston served the High Point church as Stated Supply pastor for one Sunday in each month. By 1876 the Winston church had grown strong enough to support an all time minister; so it called the Reverend Dr. Johnston as its pastor. He

served there until 1887, a continuous pastorate of seventeen years. At this time he resigned to become Evangelist of Orange Presbytery. After leaving Winston he moved to Raleigh, North Carolina, where he resided for three years, then moved to Elizabeth City in 1890. Here he made his home for ten years, laboring in the city and in the neighboring counties, founding churches and preaching the Gospel in destitute and remote regions. In 1900 he again changed his residence, this time to Tarboro, where he preached in the churches of Parmele, Falkland, Aurora, and other places. He served here until the end, passing on November 14, 1901, to that world of peace and love for which he had so fervently prepared.

The Reverend Johnston was married to Miss Christine Benedict, daughter of the Reverend E. P. Benedict, on August 22, 1860. To this union was born five children. The youngest of these children, the Reverend Thomas Dabney Johnston, was at one time a member of the Synod of North Carolina.

Dr. Johnston, during his lifetime was the recipient of many honors and the depository of various trusts. He was the representative orator of his society at Davidson College in 1854 and the Alumni orator in 1871. In 1866 he became one of the Synod's trustees of the Union Theological Seminary, and in 1878 was elected Stated Clerk of Orange Presbytery.

In this capacity he served until his resignation twelve years later. He was elected moderator of the Synod of North Carolina at Wilmington, in the year 1883, and the same year his Alma Mater conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

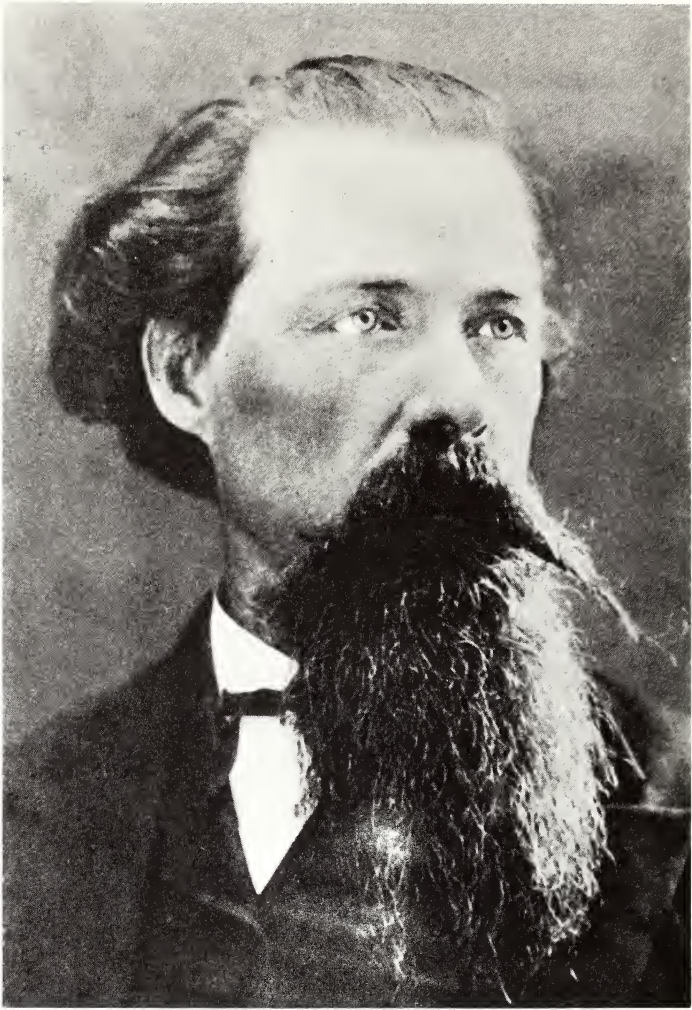
Dr. Johnston was a faithful and diligent laborer, giving his best in each of the various fields of labor and departments of Christian work in which he served. He was a man of scholarly tastes and attainments, keeping himself acquainted with all that was best in science and literature, and accurately and extensively informed concerning Theology and Church History.

The Reverend J. Rumble in a memorial sketch of Dr. Johnston's life says of him: "His sermons were prepared with great care, full of sound doctrine, crisply and gracefully expressed, without rhetorical blemish, and though not delivered in the most popular style of oratory, were always listened to with profit and pleasure by intelligent hearers. Though keeping himself informed on the points of modern criticism, and the vagaries of modern spiritual mysticism, he continued sound in the faith once delivered to the Saints. Dr.

Johnston was somewhat retiring in his manner and utterly destitute of aggressive self-assertion, but at the same time, was courageous in defense of the truth, and easily approachable; a most agreeable companion with his old and tried friends, having a fine sense and appreciation of pure and elegant humor.

“In his intercourse with men, and especially with his ministerial brethren, he was so friendly and gentle as to call forth universal affection and confidence. The Synod of North Carolina has lost from its rolls one of its loveliest ministers, and we shall miss him until we are permitted to meet him in that world of peace and love to which his spirit had been, while on earth, so wonderfully conformed.”





THE REVEREND WILLIAM BUNCHANAN TIDBALL

CHAPTER IV

PASTORATE OF

THE REVEREND WILLIAM BUCHANAN TIDBALL

1872 - 1874

After the Reverend Frontis Howe Johnston tendered his resignation as Stated Supply Pastor of the High Point Church, some of the members of it went over and listened to the part time pastor of the Alamance Presbyterian Church, near Greensboro. They liked the Reverend William Buchanan Tidball. His whole time was not taken up in his pastoral work with the Alamance Church, so the High Point Church extended him a call, for one Sunday out of each month at a salary of seventy-five dollars a year. Mr. Tidball thought well of the call so accepted it and began his work as Stated Supply Pastor of the High Point Presbyterian Church in August of the year 1872.

In the Session Records it is not recorded which Sunday, in each month, Mr. Tidball gave to the High Point Church, but from records of all the Session Meetings he moderated one is lead to believe that his Sunday for High Point was the second one.

Because Mr. Tidball was serving the Asheboro Presbyterian Church too, he kept his residence in Greensboro.

There is little known about the affairs of the High Point Church for the two years Mr. Tidball served it. The only records of this period of time, that shed any light on it, are those kept by the Clerk of the Session, Elder Malcom Shaw. His records only show seven meetings of the Session held during the Reverend Tidball's entire ministry, however, in these records there is found that the first Sunday School Convention held in the Synod of North Carolina, since the founding of the High Point Church, was held at Madison, North Carolina, September 3, 1872. Elder Shaw was elected to attend this convention as a delegate from the church, but there is no record that he did attend.

The Statistical Report adopted by the Session for the year ending March 31, 1873, showed that two members had been added to the church roll on profession of faith and examination, none by certificate, and with the dismissal by letter, the church roll was left

numbering only forty-two, which was exactly the same number recorded when Mr. Tidball came to the church. At this time the membership of the Sunday School had decreased, and only numbered thirty-two with an official staff of five—this including teachers. While the Sunday School attendance had decreased it was gratifying to find that the church had paid the salary it had promised to its Pastor. What a fine sensation the officers and members of the congregation must have experienced in once again being able to meet their obligations to their Pastor.

The report made out by the Session to Orange Presbytery for the church year closing March 31, 1874, was as follows: One added by profession of faith and examination; one by certificate; total communicants, forty-six; for sustentation, \$10.00; Foreign Missions, \$4.50; Education, \$7.50; For Publications, \$3.00; Disabled Ministers, \$3.50; Pastor's Salary, \$75.00; and Miscellaneous, \$6.00; Total \$109.50.

Although the Reverend Tidball was pastor of the church approximately two years, and there were five added by profession of faith and examination, one of these being Miss Josephine M. English (Mrs. R. A. Wheeler) on October 13, 1872, and five by letters, the total membership when he left was exactly the same as it was when he came. And, the officials of the Church were the same; Eli Denny, Malcom Shaw, and R. English Blair were Elders, and Washington C. Denny, and William T. Rankin were the Deacons.

The Reverend William Buchanan Tidball's ministry here was of short duration. At first glance it seems that little had been accomplished during his sojourn, but when it is remembered that the Reconstruction Days were still in full swing, and nothing was stable, his achievements take on a different light. The influence of this godly man was indeed felt in the community, and although the times were trying he could boast that the church membership, although status quo when he left it was not less than it was upon his arrival.



BIOGRAPHY OF

THE REVEREND WILLIAM BUCHANAN TIDBALL

1822 - 1896

The Reverend William Buchanan Tidball, a son of Dr. Brownhill and Lovely Caldwell Tidball, was born at Wheeling, in Marshall county, Virginia (now West Virginia), December 1, 1822.

In the year 1842 William was sent to Martinsburg Academy, Ohio. After one term at this school, because of the fact that he had to make his own way, he stopped and taught in Kentucky. In the year 1846 he entered Jefferson College, Pennsylvania, but being short on funds remained only one term. At this time he was given the opportunity of securing a school at Botanic Hill, North Carolina, so he took it.

In June of the year 1848 he entered Hampden-Sidney College and graduated from it in 1849, at the same time pursuing his studies in the Union Theological Seminary. He received his license to preach from the West Hanover Presbytery in 1851.

On January 19, 1853, he was married to Miss Susan Mosley Todd of Prince Edward Court House, Virginia, and to this union there were born three children; the Reverend Charles M. Tidball, Charleston, Arkansas; the Reverend William Jared Tidball, formerly in the Chair of Greek and Hebrew in the Theological School at Austin, Texas; and Miss Lily Tidball, late missionary to Hangchow, China.

Soon after his marriage, in December, 1853, responding to the crying needs of the southwest, Mr. Tidball went to Corpus Christi, Texas, and was ordained by the Presbytery of Western Texas, July 9, 1854, at Goliad. During the late months of the same year he accepted work at Brownville, Ohio. Here he lived until in the Spring of 1856 when he returned to Virginia as pastor of the 'Old Concord Church,' in Appomattox County. Mrs. Tidball died in the year 1861, eight years after being married.

About six months before the close of the War between the States, Mr. Tidball gave up his work and left his motherless children in the care of an aunt and became Chaplain in the Confederate Army. There he served until the close of hostilities in 1865.

After the close of the war his next field was in North Carolina, as pastor of Old Alamance Church, near Greensboro. While he was

serving the Old Alamance Church, in 1868, he organized a church at Springwood, and served also as its pastor. His labors as pastor of the Alamance Church extended over a period of seventeen years, from 1866 to 1883, the longest of his pastorates, and a blessed and fruitful one. While still serving the Alamance Church he accepted a call as Stated Supply Pastor to the High Point Presbyterian Church, from August 1872 to April 1874, for one Sabbath in each month, and during this same year he also accepted a call for part of his time as Supply Pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Asheboro, North Carolina.

In 1872, during his residence in Greensboro he was married a second time; this time to Miss Maria L. Caldwell of Madison, North Carolina.

Moving to the western part of the state in the year 1884, he became pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Taylorsville, North Carolina, his last pastorate. There he served until 1888. Taylorsville and Wilkesboro were in the same field, and there he did some of his best and most acceptable work. Indeed, it was true of him that so long as he remained in regular and active work, his power as a clear, incisive and convincing preacher grew in effectiveness. His style of preaching generally, though never slavishly delivered from a carefully prepared manuscript, was popular, and seemed to commend itself to his brother clergy and to members of the legal profession. He liked to preach and was wont to say: "I would rather preach the Gospel than eat when I am hungry."

He died at Madison, North Carolina, on April 20, 1896, and was laid to rest in Greensboro, North Carolina, where he had served so well, and had loved to live.



CHAPTER V

SECOND PASTORATE OF

THE REVEREND PLEASANT HUNTER DALTON

1874 - 1889

For a period of time, from April 11, 1874, when the Reverend W. B. Tidball preached his last sermon as pastor of the Church, until September 13, 1874, there was no shepherd of the High Point Flock. The month of September, however, ushered in a period of great rejoicing. The beloved Mr. Dalton, the Founder and first Stated Supply Pastor of the Church had been extended a call and had accepted it. He was coming back home. The faithful members of the Church, who had been shouldering the duties necessary for the continued existence of the Church, heaved a big sigh and willingly shifted the responsibilities of the Church to Mr. Dalton's shoulders again.

This second term of Mr. Dalton's Ministry should be divided into two distinct periods—the one in which he served as Stated Supply Pastor for one Sunday out of each month, and the one in which he served as Pastor of the Church for one-fourth of his time.

When Mr. Dalton had previously served as pastor of the Church, he had made his home in High Point. When he returned this second time he again chose to live in the village, although his services were to be shared with the Durham, Chapel Hill, and New Hope Presbyterian Churches.

Soon after Mr. Dalton returned to the High Point Church there was created a vacancy on the Board of Trustees, by the death of Deacon A. G. Foster. No action was taken as to the filling of this vacancy until a Congregation Meeting on February 14, 1875. At this meeting William T. Rankin was elected a Trustee to fill the vacancy.

From the Statistical Report made out to Orange Presbytery at the close of the church year March 31, 1875, it was recorded that there were the same elders, as previously reported, serving the Church: Eli Denny, Malcom Shaw, and Robert English Blair, and that the deacons were Washington C. Denny and William T. Rankin. The number of communicants added by examination were three

and by certificate one; the number of children enrolled in the Sunday School forty; the salary paid the Reverend P. H. Dalton for his services was seventy-five dollars. From the reciprocal report sent up to Orange Presbytery on April 10, 1875, it was gratifying to learn that the financial conditions in the church were better, for the Reverend Mr. Dalton says in this report: "The High Point church has fulfilled its promises to me during the year past and thinks it can pay me for the next twelve months one-hundred and twenty-five dollars instead of the seventy-five dollars as heretofore promised."

The year 1876 brought two deep sorrows into the life of the Reverend P. Hunter Dalton. The death of Archie Carter, his son, who had completed his studies for the ministry, but had not been licensed, and the death of Ruling Elder Eli Denny. The death of Eli Denny in January 1876, was the first break in the ranks of the official family of the Church since its founding seventeen years before. It was with profound sorrow and a keen sense of their loss that the membership of the Church laid to rest the remains of their brother Eli Denny. He was a man who might well be called a co-founder of the Church.

From the report prepared by the Session for the church year ending March 31, 1876, we find that the enrollment of the Sunday School was again losing ground—there being only thirty-five reported on the roll. The report also noted that the congregation had fallen short, by nine dollars, in meeting the salary promised to Mr. Dalton.

The Church had recently had two deaths among its officers, these offices must be filled. A Congregational Meeting was held on April 7, 1878, and Washington C. Denny, and Peter Thurston were elected Trustees to fill the vacancies left by the death of Eli Denny and Sewell Farlow.

Just why the vacancies on the Board of Elders were not filled at this same Congregational Meeting is not recorded, but it was not until two years later, at a Congregational Meeting held on November 3, 1878, that Deacon Washington C. Denny, and Deacon William T. Rankin were elected to the office of Elder. At this same meeting William M. Wiley, and Joseph S. Newlin, who had joined the Church August 5, 1877, on profession of faith and by examination, were elected Deacons to fill the vacancies caused by the promotion of Mr. Denny and Mr. Rankin. With the exception of William M. Wiley, these newly elected officers were all ordained and installed on the next Sunday that services were held in the Church.

A long period of time had elapsed since the Session had been called upon to sit in judgment as a court upon the short comings of any of the church members, but in the year 1878, a member of the congregation was reported to have transgressed. He was called before the Session and charged with the sin of fornication. After the trial he was suspended from the privileges of the church until he could give satisfactory evidence that he had repented.

In January, 1879, there was a change in the Session. Elder Shaw, who had served as Clerk of it since the organization of the church, resigned and Elder Washington C. Denny was appointed to succeed him. At a Session Meeting held on February 2, 1879, before the morning services, there was cause for sincere rejoicing; for the member of the church who, a few months earlier, had been suspended from church privileges, appeared and gave satisfactory evidence of his repentance. The Session then unanimously voted to restore him to full fellowship in the church, believing that God had pardoned him for his transgressions.

From the yearly report made out by the Session in March of the year 1879, there is only one deacon recorded, Deacon Joseph S. Newlin. It is, therefore, evident that William M. Wiley, though elected a deacon in November, 1879, did not at that time nor later accept this office. There were four elders; Malcom Shaw, R. English Blair, Washington C. Denny, and William T. Rankin. A total of thirty-seven communicants was reported on the church roll and there were sixty-five children enrolled in the Sunday School. The total amount received by the church Treasurer, Elder Washington C. Denny, was one-hundred and fifty-dollars and fifty cents, and of this amount collected Mr. Dalton had been paid on salary one-hundred and two dollars.

At the Session meeting held on November 29, 1879, Major W. B. Lynch and his wife joined the church by letter from Mebaneville, North Carolina, and the following February he was elected and installed as Elder of the church, thus making five elders and only one deacon. By the close of the church year, March 31, 1880, the total number of communicants was thirty-five, the enrollment in the Sunday School thirty-eight, and the amount which had been paid in to the treasury for the year was two-hundred and sixteen dollars.

Near the close of the Reverend P. H. Dalton's Stated Supply ministry, on December 13, 1880, H. C. Bowman came before the

Session, and after a satisfactory examination on experimental religion, was received as a member of the church.

Sometime near the close of the year 1879, or early in the year of 1881, the Reverend Dalton founded a Presbyterian Church at Jamestown, North Carolina and began to preach there one Sunday out of each month. Upon request, the following church members were granted letters of dismissal to the Jamestown Presbyterian Church; William M. Wiley, Miss Laura Wiley, Miss Bell Wiley, J. M. Wharton and Mrs. J. M. Wharton. (This church at Jamestown was originally located on part of the lot now occupied by the residence of Mrs. W. G. Ragsdale. After several years of service the Jamestown Church was disbanded and the property sold.)

A Congregational meeting was held following the morning worship on May 15, 1881. At this time the following men were elected to the office of deacon; H. C. Bowman, Dr. J. R. Brown, and George Stuart.

On Wednesday night, October 26, 1881, directly after Prayer Meeting another Congregational Meeting was held. Soon after it was called to order the Reverend Dalton invited Deacon J. R. Brown to act as Moderator of the meeting and retired from the room.

Up to the time of this Congregational Meeting the Church had only had a Stated Supply Pastor. The purpose of the meeting was explained and a motion made calling for the services of the Reverend P. Hunter Dalton as Pastor of the Church. The motion carried, and immediately a call for one-fourth of his time, at a salary of two-hundred dollars per annum was placed in the hands of Mr. Dalton, and on October 29, 1881, he accepted it. The following week Orange Presbytery met in the High Point Church and granted the Church's request for the services of Mr. Dalton as its Pastor.

On Friday night November 11, 1881, Mr. Dalton was installed as the first Pastor of the Church.

At the beginning of the Reverend Dalton's second Stated Supply Pastorate, the membership of the church was forty-six. By the time he became Pastor the loss by death and letters of dismissal to other churches had reduced the enrollment to forty.

The first organ the Church ever owned was a second-hand reed one, purchased from Mr. Henry Millis. (This little organ is still doing occasional service in the Church today and may be found in the

Ladies' Parlor). The date this organ was purchased is only problematic, but from all indications it must have been when the Daltons moved from High Point after his first pastorate, when Mrs. Dalton had to move her organ with her.

Records again do not substantiate it, but it is believed that the first Pipe Organ owned by the Church was bought near the beginning of Mr. Dalton's Second Pastorate. This Pipe Organ was a model which had to be hand pumped to make music, and the teenage boys of the congregation took turns pumping it. On several well remembered occasions, however, the organist was quite embarrassed when she fingered unresponsive keys and all the sound that could be heard was short snoring sounds coming from the location of the pumper behind the organ. (When the second church building was erected this organ was installed in it.)

Miss Eliza Fisher was the first Church Organist, after "The Pipes" were installed, and she served as the official organist until she accepted work in Salisbury, North Carolina, and moved there. When she left there was no other member of the Church who could play a pipe organ. Mr. Dalton had an idea. Miss Betty Hunt Sapp (Mrs. J. Ed Kirkman) could. She played the pipe organ at the Methodist Episcopal Church, and they held services on different Sundays to the Presbyterians. Mr. Dalton went to see Miss Sapp and laid his troubles before her. She graciously agreed to help him out with the music and became organist for the Presbyterians until Miss Eliza Fisher moved back to High Point.

From the reciprocal report of Mr. Dalton's, which accompanied the Statistical report of the Church sent to Orange Presbytery in April 1882, we read:

"The High Point Church has, in the main, discharged its duties to me during the past year. The salary fell short of the hopes of all of us, but it was because we had no deacons. As they now have four deacons they expect to pay promptly the two-hundred dollars which they have promised their pastor."

In the report to Presbytery for the year closing March 31, 1883, it is noted that the pastor had received his full salary—the deacons were on the job.

At a congregational meeting held on the second Sunday in June 1883, Mr. J. J. Long was elected a deacon to fill the vacancy made when Deacon George Stuart moved to Winston.

On February 10, 1884, a financial report for the church was presented to the Session, but being unsatisfactory was tabled until the next meeting when there would be more time to discuss it. At a Session meeting held on March 9, 1884, this report was again presented, and with few corrections was accepted along with the Church's yearly report that was to go to Orange Presbytery—stating that the one-hundred and seventy-five dollars promised Mr. Dalton for salary had been paid. Evidently, sometime during the year Mr. Dalton's salary had been reduced from two-hundred dollars to one hundred and seventy-five dollars per year, for the reciprocal report of Mr. Dalton's which accompanied the statistical report read: "I hereby certify that the church of High Point has discharged its duties to me during the past year."

On March 9, 1884, Thomas H. Patten and his wife were received into the membership of the church from the Central Presbyterian Church of Denver, Colorado. The church letter Mr. Patten brought stated that he was an elder in good standing in the Denver Church. Another elder was needed in the High Point Church, as Elder W. B. Lynch had recently moved to Florida. At a congregation meeting held on April 13, 1884, Mr. Patten was elected an elder and installed the same day.

On September 1, 1884, Elder Robert English Blair passed to his reward and his remains were laid to rest in the graveyard of his ancestors—at Springfield Friends Church. The passing of Elder Blair was keenly felt by the membership of the church, for he had faithfully served it for a period of twenty-five years—first as a deacon, then as an elder. The death of Elder Blair, and that of Eli Denny, a few years before, had taken from the church two of its sincerest and most devout officers and members.

The date September 3, 1884, marked the twenty-fifth birthday of the founding of the Church. No doubt there were members who recalled that fact, but there is no record of any special celebration of the day.

The report from the Session closing the church year's work March 31, 1885, shows that the pastor's salary was paid in full; there were four elders and four deacons; the number of communicants on roll were forty-three, and non-communicants forty-four; infants baptized three; scholars in Sunday School and Bible Class seventy; total amount of money paid into the treasury for year two-hundred and thirty-nine dollars and twenty cents.

With the passing of years there had been continual changes

among the officers, as well as the members of the Church. On September 12, 1886, Deacon J. S. Newlin was granted a letter to join a Presbyterian Church in South Carolina, and on November 13, 1886, the Church lost another elder, Thomas H. Patten, to a Presbyterian church in Denver, Colorado.

At the close of the church year, March 31, 1887, it was recorded that there were only three elders and two deacons in the Church—elders, Malcom Shaw, W. C. Denny, and William T. Rankin; deacons, H. C. Bowman, and J. R. Brown; additions to the church roll for the year were ten on profession of faith, and three by letters; however, there were only thirty-two communicants on roll at this time, and four non-resident members; and sixty scholars enrolled in the Sunday School.

On Saturday night, May 28, 1887, a congregational meeting was held for the purpose of electing one elder and one deacon. Dr. J. R. Brown was elected the elder, and C. W. Worth, who had joined the church on November 13, 1886, was elected the deacon, and on the following day they were ordained and installed as officers in the Church.

At a Session meeting held on February 12, 1888, it was agreed to join the Alamance Church Session in an overture to Synod, Orange Presbytery consenting, for a division of Orange Presbytery. This overture was granted by Synod, resulting in the forming of Albemarle Presbytery by Synod later on.

For a number of years there had been carried on the Church's roll names who were inactive. At a Session Meeting held on July 8, 1888, a revision of the church roll was made.

On January 22, 1888, Elder S. C. Lindsay of the Presbyterian Church of Kernersville, North Carolina, moved to the village. Soon after his arrival the Session planned to call a congregation meeting, to elect him as an elder, but they did not get around to calling this meeting until September. When the meeting was finally held he was both elected an elder and installed at the same meeting.

The Statistical Report to Orange Presbytery, prepared by the Session, of the Church's activities during the last year of the Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton's pastorate with the Church is as follows: Elders four; Deacons one; Added by Certificates two; total Enrollment thirty-one; Non-resident Members three; Scholars in Sunday School sixty-three; Paid to Benevolent Causes and Tax forty-

dollars; Pastor's Salary two-hundred dollars; Congregational Expense thirty-three dollars and eighty cents; Miscellaneous (roofing church) sixty-two dollars; Total Money Paid in to the Treasury three-hundred and thirty-five dollars and eighty cents.

During his residence in the city Mr. Dalton made a great many friends among all classes of people, especially with the youth of the village. He was a great croquet enthusiast, and on the days he went to market for Mrs. Dalton, he usually carried a croquet mallet with him. If one examined the basket on his arm closely, nine times out of ten there would be found a croquet mallet, and before he returned home, one would likely find him on the croquet ground behind English's store enjoying a game with some of the young folk.

Had the Reverend P. H. Dalton stayed at the church until September of the following year he would have seen the Church pass its thirtieth birthday. This church was old enough now, so Mr. Dalton reasoned, to look out for itself; so with sadness in his heart he decided to take leave of it as its pastor—take leave of it with the satisfaction of knowing that during this second period of time he had sojourned in High Point, there had been added thirty-seven to the membership on profession of faith and examination, and forty-three by Certificate.





THE REVEREND WILLIAM P. MCCORKLE

CHAPTER VI

PASTORATE OF

THE REVEREND WILLIAM P. McCORKLE

1889 - 1891

Mr. Dalton's resignation left the church again without a pastor, and it was not until April 9, 1889, that a congregational meeting was held to fill this vacancy. This meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by the Chairman of the Pulpit Committee, Elder S. C. Lindsay. After the prayer, Elder W. C. Denny was asked to serve as clerk of the meeting. The first business for the congregation to transact was the approving of the Pulpit Committee which had been appointed by the Session, composed of Elders S. C. Lindsay and Dr. J. R. Brown. After this committee was approved the next business was the recommendations of the Committee, then came the motion to call the Reverend William P. McCorkle of Mecklenburg Presbytery to serve the church as Stated Supply Pastor, for two Sundays in each month, at a salary of two hundred dollars per year. (The Lexington, North Carolina Church was coupled with this church for the other part of his time.) The issuing of the call and the completing of all arrangements with the Reverend Mr. McCorkle, if he accepted, was placed in the hands of the Pulpit Committee. Mr. McCorkle was interested and soon after receiving the call notified Elder S. C. Lindsay of his acceptance. The other arrangements were looked after by the committee in charge and Mr. McCorkle preached his first sermon as Stated Supply Pastor of the Church on May 26, 1889.

At a Session Meeting held on August 25, 1889, Elder Brown was appointed as principal and Elder W. C. Denny as alternate to attend the next meeting of Orange Presbytery and to ask that the necessary steps be taken to make the Reverend W. P. McCorkle the Stated Supply Pastor of the church for two Sundays out of each month. Orange Presbytery was agreeable to the request; so the Reverend Mr. McCorkle became the Stated Supply Pastor and began his ministry in the church with very favorable prospects. At the time the membership of the church was only thirty-four; a small band, but most of the members were active, and interested in their church.

Elder Malcom Shaw had moved to Greensboro. On April 9, 1889, a request was received from him, asking that his church letter be sent to him so that he might place it in the Greensboro Presbyterian Church. This request brought a feeling of nostalgia to the High Point Church. Eli Denny and Robert English Blair had passed to their reward some years earlier, and now the last of the Church's Charter Officers was withdrawing his membership. They did not want to give this letter but there was nothing else to do but grant his request.

At the first Session Meeting held after Mr. McCorkle took up his pastoral duties in the church, J. C. Callum and J. J. Lindsay appeared before it and upon satisfactory examination of their faith were accepted as members of the church. The number of deacons in the church had dwindled to such an extent that it was felt by the entire membership of the church that more should be elected. A congregational meeting was held on June 10, 1889, for this purpose, and W. E. Thurston, J. W. Snell, and J. C. Callum were elected to this office, and on the twenty-third of the same month J. W. Snell and J. C. Callum were ordained and installed.

Because of the absence of the Clerk of the Session, Elder W. C. Denny and Elder J. B. Brown served as clerk protem for the year 1889, however Clerk Denny did return and compiled the Statistical Report to go to Orange Presbytery, for the church year ending March 31, 1890. This report read:

"A year ago the number of members on our roll was thirty-five. We closed the year with fifty-six, having been received during the year; nine persons on profession of faith, and twelve by certificate from other churches.

"Of the members received on profession of faith all are adults and five are heads of families. Congregations at the services during the year were believed to be twice as large as they were during the previous year.

"While there has been no marked revival, there has been uniform and serious attention to the preached Word, and at times a very decided religious interest. We have had preaching by our Stated Supply Pastor two Sundays in each month and have maintained a Friday evening prayer meeting. The benevolent collections have been duly attended to, save that for church erection, and our people have responded cheerfully to every appeal. It is proper, however, to state that the increase in our membership does not represent a cor-

responding increase in financial strength. Family prayer is observed only to a limited extent, and so far as we know, only by the elders and deacons.

“There remains very much to be done in the way of stimulating our membership to increased consecration and fervor of spirit.

“We record our gratitude to a Sovereign God for his Grace bestowed upon us and we are encouraged to trust Him for larger blessings in the future.”

No doubt, since the town had been founded years before, there had been other revivals held in it, but during the month of May 1890, Evangelist Bill Fife conducted a town-wide revival of far reaching results—so far reaching was this revival that a great many people in the town changed their way of living, and joined churches of their choice. There were a number of these converts who were inclined towards the Presbyterian Faith, so they united with this Church. Out of the number joining the Presbyterian Church, there came before the Session on June 6, 1890, an individual who later became a leading lay worker in the growth of the Church. This individual was Mr. Ernest Ansel Snow.

On June 8, 1890, he was baptized into the church and immediately began a great christian work which continued until his death. Soon after joining the Church Mr. Snow was made Superintendent of the Sunday School. (He continued in this office for twenty-two years.) A complete year had not passed before he had so impressed the congregation with the sincerity of his conversion that they unanimously elected him an elder in the church on January 11, 1891. At this same meeting Mr. H. C. Bowman was also unanimously elected an elder, and Mr. J. M. Walker. Mr. P. H. Johnson and Mr. John R. Brown unanimously elected deacons. On January 25, 1891, the Reverend Mr. McCorkle preached a sermon on the *Nature, Warrant, and Duties of the Office of Ruling Elder and Deacon*, charging the elders and deacons-elect, to be faithful in the performance of the duties required of them. After the sermon E. A. Snow and H. C. Bowman, having signified their acceptance of the office of elder, and W. E. Thurston, William Partridge, and John R. Brown, having signified their acceptance of the office of deacon, were all duly ordained and installed. W. E. Thurston had been elected to the office of deacon June 10, 1889, but had not at that time been ordained and installed. P. H. Johnson and J. M. Walker, although elected as deacons were not ordained and installed

at this time because they did not feel they were ready to accept the office.

For the year ending March 31, 1891, the following Narrative of the State of Religion in the Church was adopted, to be presented to Orange Presbytery at its session held in Greensboro April 14, 1891:

"Dear Fathers and Brethren:

"We are gratified and at the same time grateful to a gracious God, that we are able to report progress in our church during the last year.

"Twelve members have been added to our rolls; ten were received on examination and two by certificate. Several members, however, have removed during the year, so that our actual gain is less than it was during the previous year. At present our number of communicants is sixty-seven—fourteen are non-residents.

"All things considered our congregations have been good, and the people have been uniformly attentive to the preached word. In May last, our community enjoyed a precious revival of religion of which the good results were especially apparent in our church, and are still in good measure abiding.

"Our pastor-elect has served us faithfully and efficiently; while our elders and deacons have held up their hands by their uniform sympathy and co-operation.

"During the past six months we have maintained a regular weekly prayer meeting with encouraging attendance. It has been conducted by our elders.

"We report no out-breaking violation of Sunday—and yet we fear that our people do not sanctify the day as they ought. Family worship is sadly neglected, being confined to the families of our elders and deacons, so far as we can ascertain.

"Our people are not as yet fully enlisted in the cause of Foreign Missions. Our church, however, has paid its full apportionment to this cause, and a farther contribution of four dollars and eighty cents was made by our Sunday School for the work in Mexico.

"Our Sunday School is flourishing more than at any former period of its history. The enrollment of teachers and pupils aggregate one hundred and six and the average attendance is sixty. We have

found it impracticable as yet to establish Bible Classes apart from the Sunday School, nor have we as yet any mission chapel or out-post Sunday School.

"Our church has paid all its apportionments for the various collections ordered by the Assembly, except that for church erection and for Tuscaloosa Institute, which we report as paid in part.

"Members of the church, we have reason to believe, are faithful to a commendable degree in the religious instructions of their children. All our members are living together in harmony and brotherly love.

"We paid to our pastor a salary of two hundred and fifty dollars which was promised him. An increase was made in the amount paid into the different causes over last year of twenty-eight dollars and ninety cents.

"None of the members of the church depend upon public charity.

"The expenses of the Reverend McCorkle were paid to Presbytery and Synod. Mode of collection—subscription and basket collection.

"There are ninety-eight scholars in Sunday School under control of the Session. Pastor preaches twice a year to the children; *Catechisms* are taught, but not the *Confession of Faith* and *Form of Government*; *Children's Friend* taken. Our young people memorize the Scriptures. No special religious interest in school during the year. We use the International lessons in connection with the *Bible* and *Shorter Catechisms*. No collection is taken in the Sunday School during the year for Assembly's Objects, except for missions. Attendance of school upon preaching is small. (Signed) J. R. Brown, Clerk Protem."

At a Session Meeting held on April 27, 1891, it was decided that the Session should hold regular meetings in April, July, October, and January and that the deacons should be present at these meetings.

In the month of May, 1891, the Reverend W. P. McCorkle, after an enviable two years of masterful service, as Stated Supply Pastor of the church, resigned and sought new fields in which to labor. This sudden decision of his to resign was the result of no snap judgment. He had considered it from all angles before taking the

final steps. Some time earlier in his ministry in this church he had preached a powerful sermon on temperance expressing his views uncompromisingly. Some of his ideas, as set forth in this sermon, did not coincide with those of some of the members, so a growing faction of opposition had sprung up. The Reverend Mr. McCorkle was conscious of this so he voluntarily resigned.

The Reverend McCorkle was the first Stated Supply Pastor to serve the Church for two Sundays out of each month, and during the whole history of the Church there had been no such religious progress made as in the two years under his guidance. Among the thirty-four members joining the Church while he was Stated Supply Pastor in High Point, were such names as E. A. Snow, Mrs. E. A. Snow, P. H. Johnson, J. J. Lindsay, and William Partridge.

Mr. McCorkle was an earnest, faithful, and most sympathetic pastor, and while he did not make his home in the town, the memory of his faithful life will ever be a heritage to the Church and this city.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE REVEREND WILLIAM P. McCORKLE

1855 - 1933

The Reverend William P. McCorkle, the second son of the Reverend Alexander B. McCorkle and Lucilla Gambol McCorkle, was born on April 16, 1855, in Talladega, Alabama.

William received his early training at a private school in Alabama and entered Washington and Lee University in 1870, the year that General Robert E. Lee died. He distinguished himself there and was awarded the Santini Medal. After leaving the University he taught at Middlebrook, and at the once famous Wesleyan Female Institute in Staunton, Virginia.

In December, 1879, he married Miss Lutie Andrews, the noted writer of Charlotte, North Carolina. His first pastorate was in Beaufort, North Carolina. From there, on account of his wife's health,

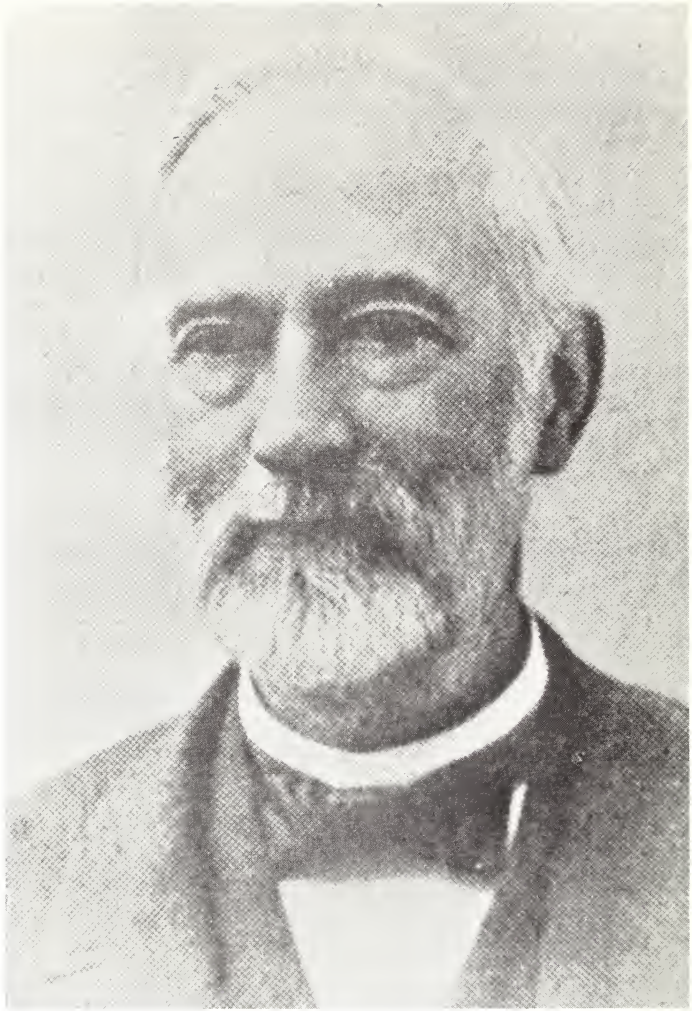
he accepted a call to El Paso, Texas, where he did splendid work for four years. After this stay in Texas, and a great improvement in the health of his wife, he returned to North Carolina and served as pastor of the Shelby Presbyterian Church; the churches of Lexington, High Point and Jamestown from April 1889 to May 1891; then back to the Shelby church from 1891 to 1896; then at the Graham church from 1896 to 1901; subsequently going to the First Presbyterian Church of Savannah, Georgia. From there he went to the Presbyterian Church of Martinsville, Virginia. His next pastorate was again in North Carolina at Piedmont, where he served the three churches, Piedmont, Shilo, and Elmira; and on the second Sunday in May 1920, he began work at the Burlington, North Carolina Church. He started this work but had to resign in May 1924, on account of increasing deafness and eye trouble.

The Reverend Mr. McCorkle was an outstanding preacher; his sermons were strong and scriptural, always making a profound impression upon those who heard him. As a pastor he was earnest, faithful, and most sympathetic.

Mr. McCorkle was a profound and accurate scholar, and was thoroughly familiar with the history and doctrine of his church. After he retired from active ministry he continued to serve the church through his magazine and newspaper articles. He was a frequent contributor to the leading newspapers of North Carolina on timely subjects. He was also the author of an important book, *Christian Science or the False Christ of 1866*, which he had published in 1904. At the time of his death he was making a study of the Barthian Movement in Theology.

On March 5, 1933, at the age of seventy-eight, the Reverend W. P. McCorkle passed on to his reward. His funeral service was held from the Presbyterian Church of Graham, North Carolina, and his body was laid to rest in a cemetery at Charlotte, North Carolina.





THE REVEREND JOHN C. DINWIDDIE

CHAPTER VII

PASTORATE OF

THE REVEREND JOHN C. DINWIDDIE

1891 - 1893

With the untimely departure of the Reverend W. P. McCorkle there came for a few months a lapse in the progress of the church. On Thursday evening July 16, 1891, a congregational meeting was held in the church for the purpose of calling a pastor. Elder S. C. Lindsay, previously appointed chairman of the Pulpit Committee, called the meeting to order and after reading a passage of Scripture and fervently imploring divine guidance in the approaching hour of decision requested Elder J. R. Brown to act as clerk of the meeting. The purpose for which the meeting was called was clearly stated, then Elder Lindsay reported the recommendation of the Pulpit Committee, and after a thorough discussion a motion was finally made as follows: "Resolved: That the congregation of the Presbyterian Church of High Point call the Reverend John C. Dinwiddie as its pastor for three Sundays out of each month, at a salary of seven hundred dollars per year."

This call was placed immediately in the hands of the Reverend J. C. Dinwiddie, and by the last of August, he had signified to Elder Lindsay, by letter, that he would accept the call and that he was making arrangements to move his family as soon as possible to High Point. The Dinwiddie family was settled in their High Point home late in the month of September and by the middle of October the church was ready to install its new pastor.

The Sunday selected for the installation, October 25, 1891, was a brisk and perfect October day. The congregation which assembled would have done credit to a much larger church. Besides a majority of the sixty-two members of the church there were present many interested friends from other churches. The Reverend J. H. Smith, D.D., of Greensboro and the Reverend E. P. Davis of Winston, who had been named by Orange Presbytery to install the Reverend Mr. Dinwiddie, were present. Dr. Smith delivered a powerful charge to the congregation, and the Reverend Mr. Davis charged the pastor and preached an outstanding sermon.

From the yearly report made out by the Session for the church



ELDER ERNEST ANSEL SNOW



ELDER WILLIAM T. RANKIN

year ending March 31, 1892, there are found the following facts:

The church officers were: elders S. C. Lindsay, W. T. Rankin, E. A. Snow, H. C. Bowman, and J. R. Brown, Clerk; deacons, J. C. Callum, William Partridge, William E. Thurston, J. W. Snell, and John R. Brown: added on examination two; added by certificate three; total enrollment fifty-three; total to benevolence twenty-six dollars and ninety seven cents; actually paid to Pastor two hundred and seventy-six dollars and twenty-five cents (due Pastor seventy-three dollars and seventy-five cents for first six months); congregational expense twenty-five dollars and five cents; and total contributions three-hundred and twenty-eight dollars and twenty-seven cents.

On June 18, 1892, a tragedy occurred in High Point which shocked the citizenship of the town, and deeply grieved the entire congregation of the Presbyterian Church. It was the untimely death of Dr. Joshua Riley Brown, a ruling elder of the church. Dr. Brown was returning to his office from dinner, and while crossing the railroad tracks was kept from seeing an approaching train by an open umbrella he carried, and was struck by the engine and died twenty minutes later without regaining consciousness.

Dr. Brown's death was a severe blow to the Church for he was truly a *Pillar* in it—Dr. Brown, besides being elder was the Clerk of the Session.

The office of the Clerk of the Session was filled in due time, by Elder W. T. Rankin but no man could fill Dr. Brown's place in the Church for there were few *Doctor Browns*.

For a great many years there had been carried on the church roll a long list of inactive members. No one seemed to know where some of them were, or anything about them, while some of the persons on the list had, without asking for their letters, affiliated themselves with other churches in town. A general house cleaning was needed, so on August 30, 1892, the church officers decided to go over the list and delete any name they thought wise. Twenty-seven names were struck from the Church Roll.

About this time the High Point Church seemed to literally be on fire, for at the same meeting of officers, Elder E. A. Snow reported that a chapel had been built by him in the southern part of town, known as Macedonia, and was to be used by the Church as a mission. He also stated that he hoped this mission in time would

become the Second Presbyterian Church of High Point. Then he requested the Session to elect a Superintendent and Treasurer for it. Mr. Snow was named as Superintendent and Mr. W. T. Rankin, Treasurer, and Mr. Snow was instructed to select his own Sunday School teachers.

Before Mr. Dinwiddie had served a year with the church a number of the members were seriously thinking and talking "An-All-Time-Pastor," for the church. At a meeting of the congregation held September 12, 1892, the elders of the church were instructed to make application to Orange Presbytery for the services of The Reverend Mr. Dinwiddie for all his time. Elder S. C. Lindsay went as a delegate to the meeting of Orange Presbytery carrying this appeal with him. At the November 2, 1892, Session Meeting Elder Lindsay reported that Orange Presbytery had granted the request of the church, and that from that date The Reverend J. C. Dinwiddie would serve the church as a full time pastor. Thus The Reverend Mr. Dinwiddie became the first full time pastor to serve the Church.

Prior to this all time pastorate Mr. Dinwiddie had preached one Sunday out of each month at the Jamestown, North Carolina church. He would continue filling the pulpit there but at a different time.

During his Jamestown pastorate a humorous incident occurred in connection with Mr. Dinwiddie and this Church. Mr. Dinwiddie was a very active man for his age, and was accustomed to walking to and from Jamestown on the Sundays he preached there. On this particular Sunday it was bitter cold and the ground was covered with snow. The Jamestown Church building had not been built with an eye for blizzards, so was not a suitable place for such weather. The person in charge of the church building realized this fact so borrowed the Methodist Church, in which to hold services on that special day, but he had failed to leave a note on the Presbyterian Church door for Mr. Dinwiddie, stating where the services would be held. Mr. Dinwiddie came to the appointed place found the church locked, stomped around in the cold for sometime, then turned around and walked back to High Point.

The Session met on March 27, 1893, at the home of Mr. Dinwiddie, for the purpose of making out the Statistical Report for the church year ending March 31, 1893.

From the narrative report which accompanied this statistical report there is found the best insight into the religious conditions existing in the church. "During the past year," so the report says, "a

group of thirteen members affiliated themselves with the church by profession of their faith and by letters. The elders and deacons are faithful in fulfilling their duties. The attendance of the congregation at public worship is very good; however, the number usually found at prayer meetings is pitifully small. The observance of the Sabbath Day is average, and there are only a few families who make any pretense at having family altars in their homes. A manifested interest is shown in Foreign Missions by the collections taken for this cause in both the church and the Sunday School. The Sunday School is well attended and the parents seem vitally interested in the spiritual training of their children. A spirit of brotherly love seems to prevail among the church members."

"A Chapel Sunday School was organized on September 4, 1892. It, at the present date, has an enrollment of eighty-eight members with an average attendance of fifty. The same lessons from the *Earnest Worker* are used at it as at the First Church Sunday School. The *Catechisms* and *Scriptures* are memorized. *The Children's Friend* is given each child to take home and read. The First Church Pastor preaches at the Chapel every third Sunday afternoon. Much interest is manifested in the Sunday School, and also in the preaching."

In early June of the year 1893, word was received in High Point that a one time church member, W. Jasper Sechrest, the son of Mrs. Rebecca Sechrest, a charter member of the Church, had finished his training at the Union Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia, and had been licensed to preach by the Presbytery of Eastern Texas.

During Mr. Dinwiddie's pastorate in High Point Miss Ada G. Myers (Mrs. A. R. Harrison) joined the Church.

Before another yearly report was ready to be sent to Presbytery Mr. Dinwiddie had resigned as pastor of the church. As to the reason for his decision to resign there is no record; but a probable cause might have been the failure of the congregation to meet his salary fully and punctually. Mr. Dinwiddie did not receive, if the records are correct, the promised amount of salary for a single year he served the High Point Church. Had it not have been for a supplement to his salary from his teaching at the Academy in the village he could not have existed.

A great many things of interest happened during The Reverend Mr. Dinwiddie's pastorate in the High Point Church, but perhaps the most outstanding and lasting thing was the influence of his Godly life in the community. He was earnest, fearless, and some times honest to the extent of giving offense with his opinions.

BIOGRAPHY OF
THE REVEREND JOHN C. DINWIDDIE
1834-1898

The Reverend John C. Dinwiddie, was born on July 1, 1834, in the New Concord Presbyterian manse, Campbell County, Virginia. His education was received from Hampden-Sidney College and the University of Virginia. He afterwards prepared for the ministry by studying Theology under the private tutoring of Drs. Ramsey and McIlwaine of Lynchburg, Virginia, and also studied at the Seminary, from 1865 to 1866.

He taught school for fifteen years, first at Sayre Institute, Lexington, Kentucky, and then at Romney, West Virginia.

Mr. Dinwiddie was granted license to preach on May 5, 1871, in Virginia, by the Montgomery Presbytery, and the same year was dismissed to West Hanover Presbytery, where he was ordained and installed on October 28, 1871, as pastor of Orange and Gordonsville Churches. After serving these two churches and teaching in the class room for several years he returned to Montgomery Presbytery where he served the Church of Big Lick for two years. From here he was dismissed on February 1, 1881, to Roanoke Presbytery, where he served for several years the Old Concord, New Concord, and Concord Churches. From Roanoke Presbytery he accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina. Here he served as pastor and also taught at the local Academy from 1891 to 1894. At the High Point Church, he preached three Sundays each month and one Sunday each month at the Jamestown Church. From High Point he went to Oxford, North Carolina. From Oxford he returned to Montgomery Presbytery and on September 19, 1895, became pastor of Bethany Church, Roanoke City, where he served until May 18, 1897.

The Reverend John C. Dinwiddie married Mrs. Selma Plunket, who before her first marriage was Miss Selma Hunter. To this union was born one daughter, Miss Nannie L. Dinwiddie. The Reverend John C. Dinwiddie died at Greenwood, Albemarle County, Virginia, on July 19, 1898, and was laid to rest in a cemetery there.

Quoting from Mr. D. L. Clark who knew Mr. Dinwiddie personally while he lived in High Point: "The Reverend John C. Dinwiddie was endowed with a great intellect, and as a theologian there were few, if any, so brainy or cultured. In his manner of presentation he was honest, earnest, and fearless, and sometimes gave offense to those who were unable to comprehend or understand the deep researches of his great mind."



OUR FIRST CHURCH



OUR SECOND CHURCH



THE REVEREND WILLIAM LEE HARRELL

CHAPTER VIII

PASTORATE OF THE REVEREND WILLIAM LEE HARRELL

1895 - 1897

After the resignation of The Reverend J. C. Dinwiddie in December 1893, until Sunday February 18, 1894, nothing concrete was done about dissolving the the pastoral relationship with him and the Church. On this date, however, a congregational meeting was held and a resolution was passed asking Orange Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship between Mr. Dinwiddie and the High Point Church. Mr. E. A. Snow was elected to prosecute this resolution to Orange Presbytery, which would meet in Mount Airy on April 10, of that same year, and to also give Presbytery an invitation to hold its fall meeting in the High Point Church. Elder Snow went to this meeting of Orange Presbytery and reported on his return that the pastoral relations of The Reverend Dinwiddie had been dissolved, but that the Fall Meeting of Presbytery would not be held in High Point.

From the resignation of The Reverend J. C. Dinwiddie on December 31, 1893, to January 1, 1895, there was no regular pastor in charge of the Church. The Reverend P. H. Dalton of Mocksville, North Carolina, came to the church for one Sunday in each month as a supply, and the pulpit was filled on the remaining Sundays, when possible, by available ministers. Some of the ministers thus supplying the pulpit were: The Reverend John Wakefield, The Reverend D. M. McIver, and The Reverend John B. Shearer, D.D.

A congregational meeting was held on April 29, 1894, for the purpose of electing additional officers for the church. The call also carried the clause that the officers so elected should be ordained and installed on the same day. There was but one officer elected, ordained, and installed—Mr. R. G. Lea as an elder.

Because the Church was pastorless the burden of the spiritual life of the Church fell heavily upon the shoulders of the Church Elders. But, the elders were equal to the situation that had been thrust upon them. A Protracted Meeting was planned and held for a week during the month of July 1894, with the Reverend William Black, Evangelist of Orange Presbytery conducting the services. For this series of services Bibb Davis, A. J. Dodameade, Alvin Parker,

and Frank Brown acted as ushers, and The Reverend John Wakefield, who was at that time supplying the Church pulpit, was requested to invite the other ministers of the town, and their congregations, to join the Presbyterians in this revival meeting. They were also asked to hold Cottage Prayer meetings for a week prior to the opening of these services.

At a Prayer Service held three days before the opening of the Revival Services, on July 25, 1894, fifteen persons professing their faith appeared before the Session, and after being duly examined were baptized and admitted to the sealing ordinance of the Lord's Supper. Just four days later, after Sunday School, three more people presented themselves to the Session and upon satisfactory examination were also admitted to the sealing ordinances of the church.

Throughout this entire year of 1894 a number of ministers came to preach trial sermons before the congregation. On October 22, 1894, The Reverend William Lee Harrell of Georgia was present in High Point for this purpose. He moderated the Session Meeting held after Sunday School and conducted the morning service, making a profound impression upon all who heard him. His personal appearance and manner of presenting his sermon was very pleasing, and as a result a call was sent to him four days later by the congregation.

The Reverend William Lee Harrell responded favorably to the call sent him from the High Point Church, and on January 1, 1895, became Pastor of the Church for three-fourths of his time. On January 6, 1895, he preached his first sermon as Pastor, and on the same date his wife, Mrs. Annie B. Harrell, presented her letter from the Second Presbyterian Church of Rome, Georgia. This same Sunday was distinctive for other reasons than those pertaining to the Harrells for W. C. Denny and his wife, reunited with the Church bringing their letters from the Westminster Presbyterian Church of Greensboro, North Carolina. The arrival of The Reverend and Mrs. Harrell as well as the return of the Dennys was a welcomed event. Prior to Mr. Denny's removal from the village five years earlier, he had faithfully served the Church for a number of years as Deacon, Elder, Church Treasurer, and then as Clerk of the Session. As soon as possible after Mr. Denny's return, on February 16, 1895, a congregational meeting was held and Mr. Denny was again elected Elder of the Church. At this same congregational meeting Dennis Aldridge was named a deacon and on February 23, 1895, he was ordained, and he with W. C. Denny, was installed into their respective offices.

For the church year closing March 31, 1895, the following report was compiled by the Session and sent to Orange Presbytery:

Elders in the Church were: R. G. Lea, E. A. Snow, W. C. Denny, H. C. Bowman, and W. T. Rankin—Clerk; deacons were J. W. Snell, W. E. Thurston, J. C. Callum, John R. Brown—Treasurer, William Partridge, and D. C. Aldridge (deacons Thurston and Partridge are inactive); added on profession of faith twenty-eight; by certificate three; total church enrollment ninety-seven; seventeen adults baptized and two infants; children in Sunday School one hundred and ten; children in Chapel Sunday School ninety-five; total paid in to Benevolences one hundred and eight dollars and forty-eight cents (increase over the preceding year of sixty dollars and forty-eight cents;) and Pastor's salary paid three hundred and fifty-nine dollars (salary promised five hundred dollars).

With the coming of Mr. Harrell to serve as pastor of the Church there seemed to return much of the same spirit that had existed in the Church during Mr. Dalton's pastoral days. Especially was this true when within a period of six months two of the charter members had moved back to the town and had again become active in the work of the Church.

On July 7, 1895, after Malcom Shaw had moved back to town, from Greensboro, and become a member of the High Point Church for a second time, a congregational meeting was held and he was again made an elder. On an unrecorded date in the late Fall of the year 1895 members of the congregation began to talk about building a new church. The number on roll had substantially increased and the congregation had outgrown its old quarters. There were at this time one hundred and five communicants enrolled and thirteen non-resident members. Noticeable signs of reawakening in all the departments of the Church were evident and toward the latter part of the church year ending March 31, 1896, the Church was moving forward with a spirit of religious fervor and unity which is seldom found in churches.

The talk of building a new church building gathered momentum as the days passed, and by the first of the year 1896, the entire congregation was inspired with the idea. On January 29, 1896, the officers held a meeting to consider the building of a new building, and if favorable to decide upon the site. When the group assembled they thought well of the plan to build a new building, and decided to buy a lot for this purpose from Mrs. W. H. Snow, on Fayetteville Street.



THE SECOND HOME OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

After the choice of this new church site became known there were several members who were very unhappy and dissatisfied with this site. Some of the members were so vehement in their objections to the chosen site that when the officers met on February 20, 1896, the action previously taken concerning the church site was rescinded. Those present at this officers meeting were: The Reverend William Lee Harrell, E. A. Snow, D. C. Allridge, John R. Brown, and William T. Rankin. Before the meeting adjourned another lot was suggested as available and desirable. This lot was the one upon which Mr. R. Frank Dalton's home had stood before being destroyed by fire recently. It was a corner lot and had a frontage of one hundred and thirty feet on Fayetteville Street (now S. Main) and a depth of two hundred feet on E. Green Street. This lot could be bought for twelve hundred and fifty dollars.

This lot seemed to be an ideal one so the officers voted to buy it. Then they decided to sell the old church property just as soon as they could. After these affairs had been settled the officers adjourned the meeting to go to their several homes, thinking all necessary steps had been taken for the early erection of a new church building. But, this thinking was erroneous, and a tie-up developed. The officers, and apparently in this matter the Trustees, had failed to follow established procedures in church affairs. They had overlooked the fact that approval of the congregation had not been secured, and some of the Trustees, had indicated they wouldn't sign the deed. Before anything could be carried to conclusion, a general shake-up in the Trustees was necessary. Earlier in the life of the Church, it was deemed wise to put all the officers of the Church on as Church Trustees. Some of the officers now were living more than a hundred miles away, and their signatures were required on all legal documents. The fallacy of this plan for Church Trustees was seen, and a change seemed in order. A congregational meeting was called after prayer meeting on May 6, 1896. At this meeting, all of the resident Trustees, to wit: Malcom Shaw, W. C. Denny, W. T. Rankin, J. C. Callum, John R. Brown, H. C. Bowman, E. A. Snow, and D. C. Aldridge tendered their resignations. Upon motion duly made and carried the non-resident Trustees were discontinued. Those being: William Partridge, W. E. Thurston, and J. W. Snell. The congregation accepted the resignations of the resident Trustees. A motion was then made to elect five Trustees, to serve in that capacity until their successors were elected. This motion carried. The following men were nominated and duly elected as Church Trustees: W. C. Denny, E. A. Snow, H. C. Bowman, John R. Brown, and

D. C. Aldridge. After the election of these men as Trustees the Congregation elected them as a committee, to dispose of the old Church property on English Street, and to purchase a lot for a new Church Site, and they were empowered with authority to do all things necessary to carry these matters speedily to conclusion. This Committee selected a lot for the new church site, on the corner of Fayetteville (now Main) and Green Streets, known as the R. Frank Dalton lot, at a price of \$1,250.00. The old Church property on English Street was sold for \$1,000.00.

A congregational meeting was held on Tuesday night May 26, 1896, immediately after Prayer meeting, for the purpose of electing a Building and Finance Committee, and to consider the plans for the new church building. After the election of D. C. Aldridge, as Clerk of the meeting, the moderator, The Reverend Mr. Harrell, explained the object of the meeting. When the explanation had been made clear a motion to proceed was made and the business for which the meeting was called went forward. A building committee composed of E. A. Snow, T. H. Patten, W. C. Denny, and R. Frank Dalton was elected and a finance committee composed of John R. Brown, D. C. Aldridge, J. C. Callum, H. C. Bowman, and E. A. Bencini was elected. Before the meeting adjourned the following resolutions were adopted: "Resolved that the Trustees of the Church be authorized to sign all documents necessary for the construction of a new church and sale of the old church property, and that the building committee be given full power and discretion to adopt plans and to let contracts for same."

The building committee chose Mr. C. C. Hook, an architect of Charlotte, to draw the plans for the new church building, and when ready the contract for the construction of it was awarded to Mr. John Weedling. Work was begun on the building in the Spring of 1896 and by Fall of the same year the church was completed. When the foundation of this church was completed and the side walls were well under way a corner stone was laid and a service held in connection with it, but there is no record of the program carried out, nor of those who assisted The Reverend W. Lee Harrell in the service.

In June of the year 1896, about the time construction work was begun on the building, the Session gave the Lutheran minister permission, for a short period of time, to hold services on the second Sunday in each month in the old church.

On July 22, 1896, news of the death of the dearly beloved

founder of the High Point Church, The Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton was received. He had died at his home in Mocksville, North Carolina. His body would be brought back to High Point for burial, and would lay in State in the little church on English Street from where his funeral would be preached. The entire congregation was deeply grieved over the news of Mr. Dalton's passing, and to some it seemed to be a peculiar omen that death should claim him, just before the High Point Church congregation would desert the little church building, he had watched over with so much love.

When the final touches were added to the new church building it was not strange to find that the cost of it had been more than anticipated. The Finance Committee had been successful in securing enough pledges to have paid for the original plans for the new building, but more money was needed, and the collection of the pledges were slow and in some cases not paid at all.

A congregational meeting was held on January 3, 1897, after the morning service, for the purpose of electing a deacon and employing a sexton. Mr. W. C. Herndon, who had joined the Church on March 31, 1893, on profession of faith, was elected the deacon. Just who the sexton was was not recorded but it is believed he was the first sexton ever employed by the Church. At this same congregation meeting it was decided to appoint ushers for the Sunday morning services. W. C. Herndon, Dennis Aldridge, Harry Hoffman, and Fletcher Barbee, who had joined the church on July 10, 1895, upon profession of faith, were named as the ushers.

During the month of January 1897, the Session voted to invite Orange Presbytery to hold its April meeting in the new High Point Church. This was the third time in the past years that the Church had extended an invitation to Presbytery to meet with it. This third invitation was accepted and on April 28, 1897, Orange Presbytery convened in High Point with The Reverend C. W. Robinson as its Moderator.

The yearly report for the Church presented at this meeting was as follows: Elders five; deacons six; added on profession of faith seven; added by certificate ten; communicants on roll one hundred and twenty-four; baptized adults three; baptized infants two; total paid in to benevolences sixty-five dollars and forty-four cents; salary paid Pastor not reported; teachers in Sunday School four; scholars enrolled in Sunday School eighty; and collections in Sunday School thirty dollars.

The Church had, for the past two and one-half years enjoyed a blessed period of existence—in many ways the best since its organization thirty years before. It was therefore, with profound disappointment that the elders, on November 12, 1897, received The Reverend William Lee Harrell's resignation as Pastor of the Church.

In presenting his resignation to his session he told them that he had received a call to The Presbyterian Church of Toccoa, Georgia. This news came as a profound shock, and the Session loudly proclaimed "No!" Then Mr. Harrell made it clear that his mind was made up to accept the Toccoa, Georgia call.

A congregational meeting was called for November 17, 1897, immediately after Prayer Meeting. This meeting was opened with prayer by Elder H. C. Bowman, after which Elder Snow was named moderator and Elder William T. Rankin, Clerk. As soon as the preliminaries were over, Mr. Harrell presented his resignation, as Pastor of the Church to the congregation. He said that in making up his mind to resign, to accept a call to Toccoa, Georgia, he had had an inward battle with himself—because he didn't want to leave the High Point Church, but felt it was best that he did, for both himself and the Church. Reluctantly, Mr. Harrell's resignation was accepted. and once again the High Point Church found itself without a shepherd, but before the meeting adjourned the following resolution was passed:

"Whereas, The Reverend W. Lee Harrell has received a call to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church of Toccoa, Presbytery of Athens, Georgia, and has signified his willingness to accept said call, and has tendered his resignation as Pastor of the church, and asks the congregation to unite with him in a request to Orange Presbytery, to dissolve the pastoral relations existing between him and this Church, be Resolved:

"1—That in justice to Brother Harrell we, the congregation, do reluctantly consent to unite with him in this request and assure him of our heartfelt sorrow at parting with one who has so zealously labored amongst us in the Master's cause for the past three years.

"Resolved, 2—That we recognize in Brother Harrell a preacher of marked ability, eminently pious and entirely consecrated to the work to which the Lord has called him.

"Resolved, 3—That in parting with Brother Harrell we assure

him of our appreciation of his work, his labor of love among us, and that our best wishes and our earnest prayers shall follow him, and that God's richest blessings may attend him in his new field of labors."

Mr. Harrell had come to the Church as its pastor, only a few years before, but a great many things had been accomplished both spiritually and physically. The church membership had nearly doubled itself and the Sunday School was better organized and boasted a much larger enrollment than it had ever had. A new church building had been completed and occupied, if not paid for.

Mr. Harrell hated to leave this church with the debt upon it, but he sincerely believed that the congregation would come out of the dilemma in which it found itself financially, if it had a new pastor.

During the period of time Mr. Harrell was in High Point there were added to the Church roll twenty-eight by certificate, twenty by profession of faith, and two by restatement. Among the fifty added to the roll during this period of time the names of Mr. Fletcher Marvin Barbee, and William Ernest Herndon had been added by profession of faith.



BIOGRAPHY OF
THE REVEREND WILLIAM LEE HARRELL
1866 - 1906

The Reverend William Lee Harrell, was born in Roberson County, North Carolina, July 1, 1866, the son of Hugh and Mary Carlisle Harrell.

William Lee was prepared for the ministry by collegiate and theological training at Hampden-Sidney, Virginia; graduating at the College in 1889, and at the Seminary in 1892. He was licensed in May and ordained in July of the year 1892, by the Presbytery of Cherokee, Georgia, and immediately became Pastor of a group of Churches including the Second Church, Rome, Georgia; Cave Spring Church, Georgia; and Silver Creek Church, Georgia.

In June 1893, he was married to Miss Anne Bowne of Russellville, Kentucky, and to this union there were born four children—two sons, and two daughters.

All of Mr. Harrell's ministerial life was spent in the Synods of Georgia and North Carolina. He served the High Point Church, and Asheboro Church, in North Carolina for three years beginning on January 6, 1895, and ending December 31, 1897. During this period of time the second church building for the High Point Church was built.

Because of failing health Mr. Harrell tendered his resignation as Pastor of the High Point Church in November 1897, to take effect at the close of the month of December that same year. Lately he had not been well and had accepted a call to lighter work in Toccoa, Georgia.

By a very distressing accident on Wednesday, February 14, 1906, The Reverend William Lee Harrell met his death. He and a neighbor, for a day of recreation, had gone bird-hunting, when he was accidentally shot by his companion. This shot was fatal because he died before a doctor could reach him.

At the time of his death Mr. Harrell was Pastor of two Georgia churches—the Monticello and Crawfordville Churches, and in the prime of his life, only forty years of age.

His death was deeply grieved and the loss of him to the Presbyterian Ministry was keenly felt, both in the churches he was serving; in the Presbytery he was a member of; and in the Synod of Georgia.

In his brief life The Reverend William Lee Harrell was a power for good, especially active and earnest in all his endeavors and in the short time he lived he accomplished many worthwhile things. In telling of his death one says: "Would that all the servants of the Lord could have the same zeal, earnestness, and efficiency in the work as was shown by our Brother Harrell."





THE REVEREND JAMES WILLIAM GOODMAN

CHAPTER IX

PASTORATE OF

THE REVEREND JAMES WILLIAM GOODMAN

1898 - 1900

From January 1898 to October of the same year, there was no regular pastor of the High Point Church. The pulpit was filled when possible by some available minister. Since the completion of the new building the church had been having financial difficulties which grew more acute during this pastorless period of time. The material resources of the church were so reduced that the Session, as a probable way of helping to alleviate this financial strain ordered the collection basket passed at both morning and evening services.

On September 12, 1898, The Reverend John Wakefield supplied the Church pulpit and met the Session at their regular Sunday morning meeting. At this time the Elders recognized the fact that no worthwhile progress could be made in the Church until a pastor was secured. So they, "being of one mind," called a congregational meeting for September 25, 1898, for the purpose of calling a pastor.

The congregational meeting was held as ordered and moderated by The Reverend W. A. Gillan, who was supplying the pulpit on this specific day. The meeting was opened with prayer, after which Elder Shaw explained to the congregation the object of the meeting. A motion was immediately made to call The Reverend J. W. Goodman. Mr. Goodman had supplied the pulpit at an earlier date and had made a most favorable impression on all who heard him. After the motion was made, seconded, and voted upon, it was found that Mr. Goodman was unmistakably the choice of the congregation; so immediately the following call was sent him. "The Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, being in sufficient grounds, well satisfied of the ministerial qualifications of you, J. W. Goodman, and having good hopes from past experiences of your labors, that your ministration in the Gospel will be profitable to our spiritual interests, do earnestly call you to undertake the pastoral office in said congregation for all of your time, except one Sunday morning in each month, on promising you in the discharge of your duty all proper support, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord. And that you may be free from worldly care and avocation we hereby promise and oblige ourselves to pay you the sum of five-

hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$525) yearly, in regular monthly payments, during the time of your being and continuing the regular pastor of this Church.

"In testimony whereof we respectively subscribe our names this day the twenty-fifth of September, A.D., 1898.

Pulpit Committee

Malcom Shaw, Chairman

W. C. Denny

E. A. Snow

W. T. Rankin

"Attested W. A. Gillan, Moderator of the congregational meeting, September 25, 1898".

W. A. Gillian, Moderator

W. T. Rankin, Recording Secretary"

In due time after receiving this call The Reverend J. W. Goodman decided to accept, and he notified the chairman of the Pulpit Committee, Elder Shaw, of his acceptance and immediately came to High Point to take up his pastoral duties. At the time of his arrival the elders and others in the church were vitally distressed over the seeming lack of concern shown by many of the church members in the distressing financial condition of the church. The high plane upon which the Church had moved prior to the construction of the new building was gone and there were numbered among its members those who blamed the laxness of the spiritual life and the neglect of the ordinances of the church upon the erection of this new building. The deeper thinkers, however, knew differently. They knew it was merely the pendulum of time in its outward swing, and that at a future date the interest of these indifferent members would again be revived with a deeper religious fervor.

Because of this feeling in Church, the elders felt the need of a revival. Soon after The Reverend Goodman came a revival was planned and held—conducted by Orange Presbytery's Evangelist William Black. During this meeting a marvelous amount of pure religion was poured out upon the people, in and around High Point, and as a result of this out pouring there was a great spiritual awakening in the town. Sixty souls were added to the High Point Presbyterian Church Roll and many to the other church rolls in the community.

On account of the unpaid debt on the church building, it was

feared, by some, that this would retard the continued growth of the Church unless something was done about it. In every way possible expenses were cut but still there was no sizable reduction in this indebtedness. The elders changed their monthly meeting date to the first Wednesday night in each month so that they might save on the fuel.

By February 5, 1899, the Session felt it was time to call for a concerted action on their financial problem; so a congregational meeting was called for March 12, 1899. On March 6, prior to this meeting, the elders and deacons had had a joint meeting to formulate plans to present to the Congregation, which would likely solve the Church's financial problem.

The result of this meeting was that Deacon W. C. Herndon be named as collector for the Church, and that Building and Loan stock be purchased to retire the Church's debt.

At the meeting on March 12th, referred to earlier, the congregation whole heartedly approved the plans submitted by the joint meeting of the Elders and Deacons—Deacon Herndon was named collector and Building and Loan stock was purchased.

During the first six months of Mr. Goodman's pastorate a great many things were accomplished, and by the end of the church year, March 31, 1899, it seemed the Church's boat was sailing in quieter waters. This fact is substantiated by the following report:

Elders in the Church were: Malcom Shaw, W. C. Denny, W. T. Rankin—Clerk, E. A. Snow, H. C. Bowman; Deacons were: John R. Brown—Treasurer, W. C. Herndon, D. C. Aldridge, William Partidge, W. E. Thurston (non-resident), and J. C. Callum (non-resident); added on profession of faith sixty; by certificate eight; communicants enrolled one-hundred and eighty-four; non-resident communicants twenty-four; infants baptized two; children in Sunday School two-hundred and seventy-five; paid to benevolences and miscellaneous expense four-hundred and seventy-seven dollars and thirteen cents; Presbyterian Funds seven dollars; Pastor's salary (in full from October to April).

Accompanying the above Statistical and Financial Report there went a Narrative Report which related the existing conditions of the Church more in detail; the Pastor's expenses to both Synod and Presbytery had been paid by the Church; no member of the Church was receiving public charity; several members were tithers; source

of securing funds for the support of the Church and its causes was by passing the basket; there had been a marked increase in church attendance and family alters; and the observance of the Lord's Day would be much improved if the members would refrain from Sunday mails, newspapers, and social visiting. Then there was the report of the two Sunday Schools—the Church Sunday School and the Mission Sunday School. Officers and teachers in the Sunday Schools were twenty-six; scholars two-hundred and seventy-five; current expenses one-hundred and thirty-five dollars; other objects fifty-dollars; Elder E. A. Snow was superintendent of both Sunday Schools; the Catechism and Scriptures were taught, and the publications of the church were used in the Sunday School.

Doubtless vacations had been granted to previous pastors of the Church, but the first recorded action of this kind was taken by the Session on August 6, 1899, when they voted to grant Mr. Goodman a vacation.

For a great many years no recorded short comings of any of the Church members had been reported to the Elders, but at the September 18, 1899, Session meeting the report was made that one of the Deacons of the Church had been guilty of intoxication. The Session moved and seconded that this Deacon be cited to appear in the Lecture room of the Church at three o'clock on the second Saturday in October to answer to the charge of intemperance. The Deacon did not appear at this time but instead wrote a letter admitting his guilt. He stated that during the Spring months he had been guilty of drinking to excess, but that since June he had not touched a drop. After considering his letter, which seemed to be of a repentant nature, it was moved and carried that The Reverend J. W. Goodman write him a letter of kind admonition and advice, and that the matter be dropped.

Never before in such a brief period of time in the Church's history, had so many members united with it. Within the past two years ninety-two names had been added to the Church Roll. The membership at this time totaled two-hundred and four.

By April 13, 1900, the Church felt that in justice to its self and to The Reverend Goodman, that it should call him for all of his time, so a congregational meeting was called for the following Sunday, immediately following the eleven o'clock service.

This meeting was held and Mr. Goodman was extended a call for all of his time at a salary of eight-hundred dollars per year. At

this same congregational meeting Deacon W. C. Herndon was tendered a vote of thanks for the efficient manner in which he had collected the Pastor's salary and other church money.

Some time during the year 1900 a young people's society, known as the Christian Endeavor Society, was organized, but nothing more is known about it than that it was organized.

During The Reverend J. W. Goodman's two years of leadership, the Church had become more spiritually minded and made much progress. It was therefore unwelcomed news, when on December 16, 1900, Mr. Goodman handed his resignation as the Church's pastor to the Session, saying that he had accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church at Hillsboro, North Carolina, and a group of churches linked with it. He wanted his pastorate to be terminated with the beginning of the month of January.

By this time the High Point Church was getting used to resignations from their pastors, and they had found out that when a pastor resigned there was nothing much could be done but accept his resignation. A congregational meeting was then duly called and Mr. Goodman's resignation was reluctantly accepted.

The Reverend James William Goodman began his pastoral work at the High Point Church in the fall of the year 1898, with a membership of one-hundred and twenty-five, and closed it at the end of December 1900, with an enrolled membership of two-hundred and nineteen—over a hundred additions to the Church Roll. This was quite a record for any minister, and the more outstanding in that it was his first charge. Among the number joining the Church there were listed the names of Stephen Chester Clark, Allie Herndon, Nina Josephine Wheeler (Mrs. Thomas J. Gold, Sr.) and Winfred Snow (Mrs. Hiram Armentrout.)



BIOGRAPHY OF
THE REVEREND JAMES WILLIAM GOODMAN
1867 - 1924

The Reverend James William Goodman was born on December 26, 1867, near Thyatira Church, Rowan County, North Carolina.

His early education was received from the Thyatira Academy, not far from his home, and his collegiate course was taken at Davidson College, where he graduated in 1894, as an honor student. After teaching school for one year he entered the Union Theological Seminary at Richmond, Virginia, and was graduated from that institution in the class of 1899. He was ordained the same year he graduated from the Seminary by Orange Presbytery. His first charge was the Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, which he served for about two years. In December of the year 1900, he became pastor of a group of churches at Hillsboro, Eno, and Fairfield, doing a splendid work while serving them. In February of the year 1905, he was called to serve another group of churches, in Orange Presbytery, composed of Buffalo Church, Bessemer Avenue Church, Greensboro, and Midway Church. In 1911, he accepted a call to Hawfields, Bethlehem, Bethany, and Saxapahaw churches, North Carolina, and in this field he won the everlasting love of the people by the hard and self-denying work he did. In January of the year 1917, he answered his last earthly call to serve as pastor of a church. This time it was to serve the Antioch Church, near Red Springs, North Carolina. While serving this last charge the Reverend Mr. Goodman put into practice a plan which he had thought out for financing the Country Church.

In February of the year 1924, Mr. Goodman went to Charlotte for a few days in order to attend a meeting being held there by Evangelist Billy Sunday. Soon after he reached his destination he became ill and died a few days later, on February 13, 1924. His body was carried to his old home near Thyatira Church and buried in the Thyatira burying grounds.

On January 16, 1901, The Reverend Mr. James W. Goodman was married to Miss Nettie Matton of High Point, North Carolina, and from that day until his death she was a devoted wife and faithful helper in all his good works. Of this union there was born one daughter, Miss Grace Goodman.

The Reverend Mr. Goodman was a faithful and active member of the Presbytery and a devoted pastor, "Devoted to his Lord and a friend to man." In his passing there was created in the Synod of North Carolina, in which he had served since his ordination, a vacancy which was hard to fill.



OUR FIRST MANSE

1901

South Main Street



THE REVEREND ALFRED SHORTER CALDWELL

CHAPTER X

FIRST PASTORATE OF THE REVEREND ALFRED SHORTER CALDWELL, SR.

1901 - 1903

With the resignation of The Reverend J. W. Goodman there again crept into the congregation that desolate and helpless feeling, which often follows the loss of a beloved pastor. The Church was in a much better state, both spiritually and financially than it had been at times in the past—to keep it this way the Session decided not to let it remain pastorless too long. A Pulpit Committee was named and in due time a congregational meeting was called to get a report from it, and if the way was clear to call a pastor.

At this meeting the Pulpit Committee presented the names of several prospective pastors. Each of them was discussed both pro and con, and when a vote was taken it was found that the Reverend Alfred Shorter Caldwell was the congregation's choice.

A call was immediately sent to Mr. Caldwell asking for his full time as pastor of the Church at a salary of six-hundred dollars a year. At this same meeting which called Mr. Caldwell, Elder Malcom Shaw was elected representative to Orange Presbytery, with Elder E. A. Snow as an alternate, to prosecute this call for the services of Mr. Caldwell if he saw fit to accept it.

Mr. Caldwell was living in Oxford, North Carolina, at the time the call was extended to him. After prayerfully considering it he notified the Pulpit Committee that he would accept the call and expected to begin his pastoral duties at the High Point Church on April 1, 1901.

When the new church building had been erected it was the intent of the congregation to place a manse by its side, but when the church building was completed, the financial conditions of the Church did not warrant the building of a manse. In 1901, it was erected on South Main Street, next to the Church building at a cost of two-thousand dollars.

The church manse was not quite completed when the Caldwell family arrived in High Point, but in a few days they were permitted to occupy it and thus the Caldwells became the first occupants of it.

At the close of the church year, just before The Reverend Caldwell became the pastor of the High Point Church, the following report was sent to Orange Presbytery: Added on profession of faith seven; by certificate nine; total number of communicants on roll two-hundred and nineteen; non-resident communicants twenty-four; infants baptized two; adults baptized eight; number enrolled in Sunday School two-hundred and fifty-five—teachers fifteen; paid to benevolent causes two-hundred and fifty-five dollars and thirteen cents; Presbyterian tax seven dollars and twenty cents; pastor's salary paid six-hundred dollars; Mission Sunday School enrolled eighty; teachers seven; contributions thirty-one dollars and sixty-five cents; Elder E. A. Snow Superintendent of both Sunday Schools; number enrolled in Young People's Work thirty-two.

Some time during the last of August, 1901, The Reverend A. S. Caldwell was granted a leave of absence to assist in a protracted meeting in Stokes County. At the same time this leave was granted the Session went on record as requesting Mr. Caldwell to arrange for a like meeting in the home church as soon as possible. All of the details of the meeting such as time, place, and Guest Minister were left to Mr. Caldwell to handle as he saw fit. The meeting was held but the records are not clear as to who assisted him in the meeting or the exact time it was held.

The first year with Mr. Caldwell as pastor passed quickly with more or less the usual things happening, and before the Session realized, it was time to compile another yearly report. After Prayer Meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 1902, the Session convened for the purpose of making out the report to Orange Presbytery for the church year ending March 31, 1902. For the past two years there had been no changes in the officers of the church except the great loss which had come to the Church by the death of Elder W. C. Bowman on February 12, 1902.

With the death of Elder Bowman there was created a vacancy in the Session of the Church. A congregational meeting was held on April 13, 1902, for the purpose of electing officers. Deacon W. C. Herndon was elected to eldership to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Elder Bowman, but for some unknown reason no deacon was elected to fill his place; so the Diaconate was left with only two deacons.

The little Mission Chapel which Elder E. A. Snow had built several years earlier had outgrown itself; so during the year 1902,

he had built a church to take its place. This church was located on the corner of Russell and Park Streets and it was known from the time of its completion as the Snow Memorial Church. Soon after it was finished, the last week in November, a series of services were held in it. These services were conducted by Evangelist William Black of Orange Presbytery, and the results were gratifying. Fifteen persons professed their faith in Jesus Christ and joined the First Church. Among this number was the name of Samuel E. Tucker, who came by letter.

One perhaps wonders why these converts and others joining by letters joined the First Presbyterian Church. The reason is simple. Snow Memorial Church, up to this date had not been officially organized into a church, and this was the procedure necessary for receiving these members. After the Snow Memorial Church was organized The Reverend A. S. Caldwell was called to preach there one Sunday afternoon out of each month, and these members and others so desiring were given letters to the Snow Memorial Church.

On March 29, 1903, The Reverend A. S. Caldwell startled the Session by saying to them that it was his intention to resign as pastor of the church. When it was made clear to the Session that this was the earnest desire of Mr. Caldwell they called a congregational meeting for April 5, 1903, to consider his resignation and to take action upon it. After careful consideration of Mr. Caldwell's request the congregation voted to accept his resignation to take effect on April 30, 1903. Then the following resolution which had been previously drawn up by a committee from the Session was adopted:

"Whereas, under the Providence of God, the relations heretofore existing between The Reverend A. S. Caldwell and the First Presbyterian Church of High Point have been severed by his resignation.

"Therefore, be it resolved: first, That the church because at his earnest request and desire, accept the same, although we do so with regret, and with the hope and trust that wherever God in His wisdom may direct his steps, that he may find a great field for usefulness in the upbuilding of His Church here on earth, and the gathering of Souls into His Kingdom.

"Second: That we cordially commend our Brother to the church or churches where he may labor, and may God in his love and wisdom direct his future and, Resolved:

"That the Clerk of the Session be directed to furnish him a copy

of this Resolution, and that it be spread upon the records of the Church.”

At this same congregational meeting Elder W. C. Herndon, who had been appointed by the Session, as representative to Orange Presbytery, was instructed to carry to Presbytery the action of the Congregation in uniting with The Reverend A. S. Caldwell in requesting that the pastoral relations between Mr. Caldwell and the Church be dissolved.

The yearly report for the church year ending March 31, 1903, is as follows:

Added on profession of faith nineteen; by certificate eight; total communicants one-hundred and six; non-resident communicants fifty-three; infants baptized four; adults baptized nineteen; paid to benevolences one hundred and ninety dollars and ninety-eight cents (Increase over preceding year of fifteen dollars and ninety-one cents); one-hundred and forty enrolled in Sunday School; teachers in Sunday school seventeen; current expenses seventy-three dollars and eighty cents; Home Missions fifteen dollars; and orphange eighty-six dollars. Total one-hundred and seventy-four dollars and eighty cents. Part of the reason for drop in church membership and lower figures in the year-end report was caused by the loss to the New Snow Memorial Church which had been organized during the year.

The pastoral relations of The Reverend A. S. Caldwell, Sr., and the First Presbyterian Church of High Point were dissolved as requested at the meeting of Orange Presbytery held on April 7, 1903.

During his brief sojourn with the High Point Church, a great many worthwhile things were accomplished by the Church. A total of seventy names had been added to the church roll. Among these names were to be found the names of Alfred Shorter Caldwell, Jr., Miss Ara Neal Hall (Mrs. W. T. Taylor), Miss Ruby Snow (Mrs. Bencini), Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lineback, Mr. and Mrs. George L. Taylor, and Robert L. Waynick.

BIOGRAPHY OF
THE REVEREND ALFRED SHORTER CALDWELL

1848 - 1932

The Reverend Alfred Shorter Caldwell, son of The Reverend J. M. M. and Caroline Ling Caldwell, was born on September 23, 1848, at Rome, Georgia, and was named for a friend of the family, Colonel Alfred Shorter.

Alfred spent the first fifteen years of his life in Rome and there received his early education. Owing to the results of the Civil War The Reverend J. M. M. Caldwell accepted the presidency of the Statesville, North Carolina, College (now Mitchell College) and moved his family to Statesville. Here Alfred continued his education, studying at the college and under a private tutor, Professor Samuel Stevens of the college faculty. When he had completed his collegiate education his mind was definitely made up that he wanted to enter the business world, so he was sent to Eastman's Business College, at Poughkeepsie, New York, to obtain his training.

In 1868, Mr. A. S. Caldwell entered upon a business career at Charlotte, North Carolina, and during his sojourn in that city served as deacon in the First Presbyterian Church, and later was made Elder and Sunday School superintendent in the Second Presbyterian Church there. In 1874, Mr. Caldwell assisted in organizing the Young Men's Christian Association in Charlotte, and became its first president, and later on served as secretary of it. On January 1, 1889, he moved to Little Rock, Arkansas, having been elected State Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association of that State. After serving in this capacity for three years, during which time he often discussed with his ministerial friends an urge he frequently felt to become a Minister of the Gospel, he responded to the dictates of his heart and entered the Southwestern Presbyterian Seminary at Clarksville, Tennessee, to prepare himself for the Ministry.

He was licensed and ordained by the Muhlenburg Presbytery, of Kentucky, and served churches in Kentucky, Florida, and North Carolina. In 1906, he became field agent for Barium Springs Orphanage and served in this capacity for two years.

He was twice pastor of the Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, first from 1901 to 1903, and again from 1909 to 1913, and was the first former pastor to preach in the new First Presbyterian Church building at North Main Street and East Parkway, High Point, North Carolina.

His last work was Home Mission work in Polk County, North Carolina, and in 1921, he retired from active service at Tryon, North Carolina. Six years later he moved to Davidson, North Carolina, where he lived until his death on May 21, 1932.

Mr. Caldwell was twice married, his first wife being Miss Elizabeth Hutchison of Rock Hill, South Carolina. To this union were born four children, Mary Hutchison, who died in 1900, the Reverend Eugene C., who died in 1931, Caroline Elizabeth (Mrs. A. W. Peace), and Alfred Shorter, Jr., who became an Elder in the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina. His second wife was Miss Inez Ballard, of Mooresville, North Carolina, and to this union there were born two children, David John, and Inez Elizabeth.

The Reverend Alfred Shorter Caldwell died in his eighty-fourth year, and although a great loss was felt at his passing, it was not expedient to grieve too much for one who had gone to a reward which he so richly deserved.





THE REVEREND EUGENE LEON SILER, D.D.

CHAPTER XI

PASTORATE OF THE REVEREND EUGENE LEON SILER, D.D.

1903 - 1909

If the old adage—*practice makes perfect*—is to be believed, by the year 1903, the High Point Church should have attained proficiency in the art of pastor calling. Near the close of the month of March this same year, Mr. Caldwell tendered his resignation, and on June 21, a congregational meeting was held for the purpose of calling another minister to the Church. At this meeting Elder W. C. Denny, Chairman of the Pulpit Committee, was instructed to send the Reverend M. McG. Shields, of Gastonia, a call to become pastor of the Church.

This call was sent and Mr. Shields promptly replied that he was prayerfully considering it, but would give the Church a definite answer later. The Church patiently awaited his answer and after several weeks Mr. Shields wrote that his Presbytery would not dissolve his pastoral relations with the Gastonia Church; therefore he could not accept the call to the High Point Church.

The letter from The Reverend Mr. Shields came as a great blow to the congregation. They had waited patiently for his answer to the Church's call, now they realized the delay in receiving an answer sooner from Mr. Shields had done something to them—even the Pulpit Committee seemed lax in settling upon another minister to recommend to the congregation. Finally, a congregational meeting was held though, on August 30, 1903, and at this meeting it was voted to send The Reverend Eugene Siler, D.D., of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, a call to become pastor of the Church at a salary of \$1,000.00 per annum.

By November 8, 1903, Dr. Siler had accepted the call, preached his first sermon and was living in the manse in the city.

At the time Dr. Siler came to the Church as its pastor, High Point was a town of five thousand inhabitants; the total enrollment of the Church was one hundred and sixty-nine; there were five elders, W. C. Denny, E. A. Snow, Malcom Shaw, and W. T. Rankin; and two deacons, D. C. Aldridge, and J. R. Brown; W. C. Denny

was Clerk of the Session; W. C. Herndon was treasurer of the Church; and E. A. Snow was superintendent of the Sunday School.

After Dr. Siler took up his abode in the city, as pastor of the Church, the life in it seemed to take on a more even tenor, and it was noticeable that the indifferent spirit towards the affairs of the church was disappearing. As the membership and Dr. Siler became better acquainted a spirit of peace and harmony seemed to prevail throughout the entire church.

Nothing of great importance happened in the first six months of the life of the church under the new pastor. There were the customary services of the sanctuary and the usual amount of visiting among the sick and new comers. There was not at this time any organized work among the women of the Church. However, this was one of the first things Dr. Siler planned for the beginning of the new church year.

On January 31, 1904, Samuel E. Tucker brought his letter from the Snow Memorial Church and cast his lot with the First Church. On April 7, 1904, the Session met with Dr. Siler at the manse for the purpose of making out the past year's report to Orange Presbytery.

During the first year of Dr. Siler's pastorate the chairs in the sanctuary had been replaced by pews; a missionary society for the men as well as the women had been organized; and Orange Presbytery had been invited to hold the spring meeting of 1905, in the Church.

Orange Presbytery accepted the invitation to High Point and opened its meeting in the Church on April 12, 1905, with The Reverend E. R. Leyburn as Moderator.

On April 2, 1905, Dr. W. A. Hayes was received into the communion and full fellowship of the church by letter from the Second Presbyterian Church of Charlotte, North Carolina. And on May 14, 1905, W. B. Kimmons was received by letter from the Associate Reformed Church of Coddle Creek, North Carolina. Also about this time the necessity of another deacon in the church was recognized; so a congregational meeting was held and S. A. Chandler was added to the Diaconate making the total number of deacons in the church three.

During the summer months no special activities were carried on in the church. The services conducted in the sanctuary by Dr. Siler

were well attended, but in all other activities the hot weather complex prevailed. At the July Session meeting it was voted to give The Reverend Dr. Siler a vacation for the month of August.

The fall months of the year came and went adding a few to the Church Roll by letter and by examination, and a few were dismissed to other churches. On a whole no changes of material importance happened until February 25, 1906. On this date Elder Malcom Shaw, that embodiment of what an elder should be, passed to his eternal reward. He was the oldest elder in the Church both as to age and years of service. He had served the church faithfully as a Charter Elder since its founding forty-seven years before, except for a few years when he had resided in Greensboro. His passing was keenly felt by all who knew him because of his many sterling qualities.

The first record of a budget system and an every-member canvass inaugurated in the church was recorded during the year 1905-1906. At a joint meeting of the Diaconate and Session held at the manse on February 27, 1906, a motion was made and carried to adopt the budget system of raising funds for the church's needs. The amount considered necessary at this time was about \$2,000 for the year. This motion also carried a clause which read: "that an effort be made to secure enough pledges for this amount by April 1, 1906." There were three elders present at this meeting: E. A. Snow, W. C. Herndon, and W. C. Denny, and one deacon, D. C. Aldridge.

On April 12, 1906, the Session met at the manse for the purpose of making out a report for the year 1905-1906 to be sent to Presbytery.

On April 1, 1906, W. C. Herndon was elected by the Session to attend the meeting of Orange Presbytery, which was to be held at Hillsboro, North Carolina. He was authorized to request the Presbytery to dissolve the Snow Memorial Church of the city, and to state to it that the reason for this request was because the church building had been burned earlier in the year and the congregation did not feel able to rebuild it. If the Presbytery saw fit to grant this first request Mr. Herndon was also to ask this assembly to grant letters of dismissal to some of the Snow Memorial members in order that they might join the First Church. On his return from the meeting of Orange Presbytery, April 30, Elder Herndon reported to the Session that the Snow Memorial Church had been dissolved by order of the Presbytery and that the following had been granted letters to join the First Church: Elder George L. Taylor, Mrs. Dora Appling,

F. P. Clark, Mrs. F. P. Clark, John Carroll, Mrs. John Carroll, and Miss Kate Clark.

A congregational meeting was held on May 13, 1906, for the purpose of electing additional officers, and to consider increasing The Reverend Dr. Siler's salary. This meeting was called to order just after the eleven o'clock service with The Reverend E. L. Siler moderating and D. C. Aldridge acting as Clerk. The meeting was opened with prayer, after which the object of the meeting was clearly stated—to elect one elder, three deacons and, to consider increasing the pastor's salary. George L. Taylor was unanimously elected elder and C. L. Glenn, F. M. Barbee, and W. B. Kimmons were elected deacons. After hearing a report on the financial condition of the Church from the Treasurer, Elder W. C. Herndon, a motion was made by Elder Snow, seconded by Elder T. H. Patten to increase Dr. Siler's salary \$200.00 a year. This plus his former salary made his salary \$1200 a year beginning April 1, 1906.

Shortly after the election of these new officers it was learned that W. B. Kimmons had decided not to accept the office to which he had been elected; so another congregational meeting was called for June 10, 1906. At this meeting Samuel E. Tucker was unanimously elected a deacon to fill the vacancy. On June 17, 1906, George L. Taylor, already an ordained elder, was installed as elder of this church, and the three newly elected deacons were ordained and installed.

On June 19, 1906, a joint meeting of the Session and Diaconate was held at the manse for the purpose of discussing the financial affairs of the church, and establishing the work of the Board of Deacons. At this meeting a vacation was also discussed for the pastor, and Dr. Siler was given a conditional vacation for the month of August. He was to preach the first and fourth Sundays, but was not expected to do any pastoral visiting during the month except in cases of sickness or urgent need.

At a Session meeting held on October 7, 1906, Elder E. A. Snow was chosen Clerk of the Session to take the place of Elder W. C. Denny who had resigned this office. On this same date the Session called a congregational meeting for the third Sunday in October, for the purpose of electing additional church officers. This meeting was held and J. A. Bell was elected elder and Dr. W. A. Hayes was named deacon and on the first Sunday in December they were both ordained and installed into their respective offices.

On January 6, 1907, Deacon Fletcher Barbee was granted a letter of dismissal to Augusta, Georgia. His departure left the Board of Deacons numbering only four. On the same date and at the same Session meeting which granted Elder Fletcher Barbee his church letter, Elder E. A. Snow brought good news. The Snow Lumber Company had cancelled the debt of \$1646 which was the balance the church owed it for materials used in the building of the church. He also reported that for some time he and Frank Wineskie had been considering the appearance of the church's auditorium. They had come to the conclusion that the appearance of it would be greatly improved, if the group of small stationary windows on each side of it were replaced by large art-glass ones. Mr. Snow then went on to say that he had made up his mind to donate the wooden frames and install them and that Mr. Frank Wineskie, who was not a member of the Church, had agreed to give two beautiful art-glass windows.

Those who were present at this meeting were delighted but it seemed too good to be true, that the debt they had been struggling to pay for so long had been cancelled, and that a dream, of many of the congregation, of art-glass windows in the sanctuary would soon be a reality. Dr. Siler was asked to write each of these donors a letter expressing the Session's appreciation of their gifts.

This act on the part of Snow Lumber Company relieved the Church of all indebtedness, and made it possible for the new church building to be dedicated. March 10, 1907, was selected as the date for the dedicatory services. The weather on this day was inclement, but in spite of this fact the sanctuary was comfortably filled with a large and grateful congregation.

Before the sermon was preached on this eventful day, Dr. Siler made a short address—giving, in brief, the history of the Church. The Reverend Walter Moore, D.D., of Richmond, Virginia, then preached a masterful sermon. His text was taken from Acts 17:7 *One Jesus*. Then at the close of his sermon Dr. Moore dedicated, in prayer, the church building to the Glory and Service of The Almighty God.

The long anticipated occasion of dedicating the church was history. The Church could now go forward unhampered by debt. At a joint meeting of the Session and Diaconate the following elders W. C. Herndon, George L. Taylor, John A. Bell, and E. A. Snow, and Deacons William A. Hayes, Samuel E. Tucker, G. L. Glenn, and A. S. Chandler were present. To be discussed there were a

great many things on the hearts and minds of these men. One thing which seemed to be favored by all was the placing of a tablet in the Church Auditorium in memory of The Reverend William L. Harrell, under whose leadership the present church building was erected. The unanimous opinion was that this would be a most fitting thing to do at this time since Mr. Harrell had so recently met an untimely death. Another action taken at this time was to instruct the Treasurer to take six dollars from the plate collections each month and send it to the support of a ward of the church at Barium Springs Orphanage. Also the report, covering the work done by the church for the year ending March 31, 1907, was made out.

Again it was time for another session meeting. This one was held on May 5, 1907, and the most important decision made at this meeting was to again have a Protracted Meeting in the Church. This one was to be in the Fall and Dr. Siler was asked to try and secure the services of Evangelist William Black to conduct it.

Some years before Fletcher Barbee had moved from the town, but recently he had returned to live here, so on July 14, 1907, a congregational meeting was held and he was re-elected to the office of deacon in the Church.

At the July 21, 1907, Session Meeting, Dr. Siler requested the elders to grant him the month of August for vacation. The Church sanctuary was undergoing a general overhauling with the installation of the new windows, so the Session granted Dr. Siler's request.

The Protracted Meeting planned for the Church earlier in the year began on December 8, 1907, with the Reverend William Black doing the preaching, and Elder Andrew Burr, of a Canadian Presbyterian Church directing the singing. The results of this meeting were gratifying. Twenty-eight names were added to the Church Roll, and among this number was carried the name of Mr. Frank Wineskie.

Since Dr. Siler had been pastor of the Church, the manse had been a favored place for the church officers to meet. There were undoubtedly other reasons for this being such a popular place, but one of the reasons likely was that Mrs. Siler always served them such tempting refreshments.

The ever shifting membership in the Church, for the past two years had reduced the number of church officers. If the Church was to grow and to do the efficient work of which it was capable, more officers should be elected. On the second Sunday in May, 1908, a

congregational meeting was held for the purpose of electing additional officers and trustees. At this meeting S. A. Chandler and C. T. Hamilton were elected elders, and W. F. Norman a deacon. The entire Board of Elders, and their successors in office, were elected as Trustees.

When the business of electing these men was completed Dr. Siler was asked to retire from the room. A discussion of his salary ensued, followed by a unanimous vote to raise it from \$1200 to \$1500 a year "with free use of the manse."

In the report sent to Orange Presbytery for the church year closing March 31, 1909, it is noted that there were 196 members on the Church Roll; 214 scholars in the Sunday School; 30 young people enrolled in the Young People's Society; paid in to benevolences \$426; paid to Pastor for salary \$1500; and total amount of money paid in \$2705.00.

At the May Session meeting, it was decided to hold another series of protracted meetings in June—the arrangements to be left in the hands of Dr. Siler. At the next Session Meeting Dr. Siler reported that all arrangements had been made for the desired series of meetings. They were to begin the first Sunday in July with The Reverend George L. Robertson as Evangelist, and Mr. R. O. Bell directing the singing.

The results of this meeting are not fully recorded, but it seemed that there had lacked a spirit of co-operation in the services and the meeting was not apparently the success expected.

Soon after this meeting Dr. Siler went on his vacation and before his return to High Point, he mailed in his resignation, as pastor, to the Session. There had been an unfortunate misunderstanding between Dr. Siler and the Session, which likely could have been adjusted easily had it been thoroughly gone into.

On the first Sunday in October Dr. E. L. Siler preached his last sermon as pastor of the church, and he immediately moved to Toccoa, Georgia, to become pastor of the First Presbyterian Church there.

During Dr. Siler's pastorate in High Point some of the best work of the Church was accomplished. He had placed it on a higher spiritual plane, which had made possible the accomplishment of many worth while things in the name of His Master.

Among the names of some of the members joining the Church

during Dr. Siler's six years of service in High Point were the names of Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Barbee (having moved back to town), Miss Kate Clark, Miss Hazel Fisher (Mrs. W. G. Shipman), Dennis H. Hall, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Hamilton, Miss Aura Grimes (Mrs. Nathan Bales), Dr. W. A. Hayes, Mr. and Mrs. Alex B. Headen, Miss Mary Headen, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Hyde, Mr. W. B. Kimmons, Miss Abigale N. Linebeck (Mrs. C. A. White), Miss Elizabeth R. Lineback (Mrs. G. E. Hutchins), Miss Della May Lineback, Miss Annetta J. Myers (Mrs. Messick), Mr. William Fleming Norman, Mr. DeCoursey M. Pollock, Sr., Mr. W. G. Shipman, Miss Dorothy D. Snow (Mrs. J. I. Groom), Mrs. Harriet Garvin Tate, Mr. Samuel E. Tucker, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wineskie, and Miss Thelma Wineskie (Mrs. Ben Cooper).

BIOGRAPHY OF
THE REVEREND EUGENE LEON SILER, D.D.

1867 - 1947

The Reverend Eugene Leon Siler, D.D., the son of Leon F. and Mary Trotter Siler, was born at Franklin, North Carolina, on December 25, 1867.

Eugene's early education was received in the public schools of Franklin, until he was nearly ready to enter college. In 1882 he entered the preparatory department of Davidson College, Davidson, North Carolina, and studied at this institution until he completed his collegiate course in 1887. Upon his graduation from college, he entered the Union Theological Seminary in Virginia, and graduated from it in May, 1890.

Shortly after he was graduated from the Seminary, Mr. Siler was licensed to preach by the Mecklenburg Presbytery, at Hopewell, North Carolina. In June of the same year he was married to Miss Mattie Neville and to this union was born one daughter, Florence. It had long been the desire of Dr. Siler to be a Missionary, so he accepted a call to Caldwell, Texas, soon after he was married, and accompanied by his bride took up his residence there. In August of this same year The Reverend Mr. Siler was ordained by the Central Texas Presbytery, at Robinson, Texas. From the date of his ordination he began an active ministry which lasted for many years until 1932, when on account of serious eye trouble he was honorably retired by the Fayetteville Presbytery of North Carolina.

During his active ministry The Reverend Dr. Siler held pastorates at the following places: Caldwell, Texas, from 1890 to 1893; Sharon, Mecklenburg Presbytery, North Carolina, 1893 to 1894; Wadesboro and Morven, North Carolina, 1894 to 1897; Lexington and Durant, Mississippi, 1897 to 1900; Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1900 to 1903; High Point, North Carolina, 1903 to 1909; Toccoa, Georgia, 1909 to 1910; Montreat and Black Mountain, North Carolina, 1910 to 1917; Maxton, North Carolina, 1917 to 1932. After 1932, Dr. Siler did supply work in and around Davidson and Salisbury, North Carolina.

Besides the pastoral work done by Dr. Siler he had done a great deal of clerical work for Presbytery, Synod, and the General Assembly, as Temporary, Recording and Stated Clerk, and for five years as First Assistant Clerk to the Stated Clerk of the General Assembly.

In June of the year 1895, The Reverend Dr. Eugene L. Siler was a second time married, this time to Miss Laura Inglis Prince, and to this union was born one daughter, Ruth Prince.

While living in Texas The Reverend Dr. Siler built his first church building at Yellow Prairie, near Caldwell where he then held a charge. He also built a church at Black Mountain, North Carolina, and while holding a charge there, also built a chapel outside the gate at Montreat. Dr. Siler's pastorate at Black Mountain and Montreat was not of the longest duration of time but perhaps the one in which he accomplished some of his most worth while work. With the assistance of thirteen church members of the Black Mountain Church, and friends in the state, he built and furnished a church there valued at \$3000. When his pastorate terminated there the membership had grown from thirteen to seventy-five. It is said of him, while he resided in the Black Mountain locality, that he rendered services to the community, varying in nature, from a preacher, electrician, plumber, and even a fireman.

When the High Point Church celebrated its Seventy-Fifth Anniversary on September 23 and 24, 1934, Dr. Siler returned to it and assisted in the celebration.

In December 1932, Dr. and Mrs. Siler and their daughter, Ruth moved to Davidson, North Carolina, after he had been honorably retired from the ministry on account of the condition of his eyes, but he never did cease to supply pulpits when called upon—this he continued to do until death, on March 6, 1947, when he went to sleep to awaken in his eternal home.

CHAPTER XII

SECOND PASTORATE OF THE REVEREND ALFRED SHORTER CALDWELL

1909 - 1913

With the resignation of the Reverend Eugene L. Siler the High Point Church, for the eighth time, found itself seeking a Pastor. It was decided that the entire Session should act as a Pulpit Committee, and that a supply pastor be invited to serve the Church until the spring meeting of Presbytery. Several names were considered for this supply pastor. Mr. Caldwell had previously served the Church as its pastor, and it was understood that his services were available at this time. The Committee thought well of trying to secure his services for a limited time as supply pastor. A proposition as to whether he would consider supplying the church until spring, with a stipulated monthly salary of \$100.00 a month, plus the use of the manse, was placed before Mr. Caldwell. He thought well of such a plan.

On October 24, 1909, a congregational meeting was held and the plans of the Pulpit Committee to call Mr. Caldwell, for a limited time as stated supply pastor, was approved. Elder E. A. Snow was named to attend Orange Presbytery, at Red Springs, North Carolina, on October 26, 1909, and ask permission for the High Point Church to carry out its plans to call The Reverend A. S. Caldwell as Stated Supply Pastor until the spring meeting of Presbytery.

Presbytery granted this request and again Mr. Caldwell and his family became residents of High Point.

With the beginning of the year 1910, the Session thought it would be expedient to call Mr. Caldwell again as its pastor. A congregational meeting was held on January 2, 1910, and Mr. Caldwell was extended a call to become pastor of the Church. This time his salary was to be \$1200 a year, with Mr. Caldwell returning \$200 of it each year as a gift to the Church.

Elder W. C. Herndon attended a call meeting of Orange Presbytery held in Greensboro on January 9, 1910, to prosecute the call of the Church for the services of Mr. Caldwell as pastor. The request was granted.

At the time Mr. Caldwell began his second pastorate in High Point there were five elders; four deacons; 147 members on the

Church Roll; 213 enrolled in the Sunday School; and total amount collected for the past year \$2270.

About a year after Mr. Caldwell became pastor, on February 27, 1910, Mrs. Fletcher Barbee went before the Session and asked for its co-operation in again organizing a Young People's Society in the Church. The Session assured Mrs. Barbee of their willingness for such a society to be organized and wished her God-speed in her undertaking.

At the September meeting of the Session it was voted not to hold evening services in the Church during the month of September. Then it was suggested that another revival should be held in the Church. This one to be held as soon as Mr. Caldwell could make arrangements for it.

This series of revival services was arranged and The Reverend George W. Belk came to the Church to conduct them—beginning the second week in October and continuing for a period of ten days.

From the very beginning there was not much interest shown in these services. Something was surely wrong somewhere. The Reverend Belk had, prior to this meeting, held a similar revival in Lexington, North Carolina, and had not been received well there. Perhaps the news of this unfortunate meeting had traveled to High Point and was responsible for Mr. Belk's poor reception here.

From the time of Mr. Belk's meeting until the end of the church year, March 31, 1911, few things of interest happened in the Church. About the beginning of the year, however, there were several additions to the Church roll and Miss Alma Headen's name heads the list along with that of Cecil H. Merriner and his mother, Mrs. M. L. Marriner, on January 14—coming by letter from the Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond, Virginia.

At the September, 1911, meeting Elder George L. Taylor was elected to go to the Fall meeting of Presbytery and to invite it to hold its Spring meeting in High Point. The invitation was extended but Presbytery already had accepted Burlington's invitation to meet there.

From the series of meetings held in the church the year before, there had not been reaped the desired results but its failure had in no way cast a damper upon the idea that a successful revival could be held in the church. On December 10, 1911, the Session requested the pastor to plan for a Protracted Meeting and suggested that he

invite the Evangelist William Black to hold such a meeting at the Church some time the following spring. In January Mr. Caldwell reported that he was not able to secure the services of Evangelist Black at the time the Session desired.

Early in the year 1912, the Church found itself in a deplorable financial condition. At the Session meeting held on March 3, it was decided to make two canvasses of the Congregation in April—one for the Church's expenses and the other one for benevolences. It was also decided at this same meeting to ask the Board of Deacons to organize a Missionary Committee, to raise money for the missions. A group of men present thought a quarterly meeting of the deacons with the elders might spur the deacons on to do greater things. Then the suggestion was advanced that an outside speaker who was all afire with the advantage of benevolent giving, could do much to stir up interest in the Church. Mr. A. M. Scales of Greensboro, North Carolina was invited to come address the Congregation on the subject of *Benevolent Objects*. Mr. Scales came and if his address did nothing else it at least made the Church Officers see that from a financial stand point, the Church was dragging its feet.

At a joint meeting of the two boards held on May 5, 1912, the finances of the Church were again discussed. Then the deacons were urged to make a vigorous canvass for both congregational and benevolent causes—they were both in arrears. Something was wrong with the Church. Could it be because there was no overhanging indebtedness to spur the membership on—were they just sitting at ease in Zion? These questions and many similar ones arose in the minds of the Church leaders.

The summer months faded into fall with little visible change in the attitude of the Church members. In September the Session once again asked Mr. Caldwell to secure the services of an Evangelist for a protracted meeting, if Evangelist Black's services were not available to try to get The Reverend Camp. Mr. Camp agreed to come to the Church for this meeting, but again the Church faced a disappointment for the meeting was far from a successful one.

Sometime after the close of this meeting letters were received from the Montreat, North Carolina Church for Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. Hamilton and their son, Hugh Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton had been, before moving from town, an elder in the Church. On December 1, 1912, he was again installed as an elder.

As time continued to pass it seemed impossible to diagnose the

trouble with the High Point Church. On December 22, 1912, the Session met greatly disturbed, and there was a great deal of changing around with the Church officials before it adjourned. Elder Snow first tendered his resignation as Superintendent of the Sunday School—an office he had held for the past twenty-two years. In his place Mr. J. D. Lloyd with Mr. W. F. Norman as Assistant Superintendent, was elected, and Dr. W. A. Hayes was elected as Superintendent of the Primary Department. Immediately following Elder Snow's resignation, and the appointment of his successors, The Reverend Caldwell tendered his resignation to become effective April 1, 1913.

On the second Sunday in February a congregational meeting was held. At this meeting, after due consideration, it was deemed wise to accept Mr. Caldwell's resignation. A committee of three was then named to nominate a successor to Mr. Caldwell. Those composing this Pulpit Committee were Elder C. T. Hamilton, Deacon W. A. Hayes, and A. S. Caldwell, Jr.

All these changes, which had taken place in the congregation, had left their effect upon the Church. In spite of the confusion though, the officials of the church were determined to carry on. At a joint meeting of the officers on February 23, 1913, the matter of church envelopes came up and the question was asked as to what style the congregation preferred. After a considerable discussion it was decided to return to the single envelope with extra ones for special causes inserted in each package.

At the close of Mr. Caldwell's second pastorate, the report for the year's-end, March 31, 1913, showed that there were: five elders; four deacons; two members had been added during the year on examination; twelve by letter; total Church enrollment 136; total Sunday School enrollment 238; members in Young People's Society eighteen; members in Ladies' Aid Society fifty-six; total to benevolent causes \$712; current expenses \$545; pastor's salary \$1200; and total contributions \$2457.00.

On April 5, 1913, the church suffered a great loss in the death of Elder W. T. Rankin. The passing of Elder Rankin was a source of grief to the entire congregation, although it was grateful to a kind and merciful Father for having delivered him from the great suffering he had known for the past three years. He had been a leader in the church and in his time had served it as Superintendent of the Sunday School, Deacon, Elder, and Clerk of the Session.

As the congregation of the High Point Church viewed with sadness the departure of the Reverend Caldwell from the pastor-congregation partnership, it rejoiced over the addition of such names as: Mrs. A. S. Caldwell, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Hamilton, and Hugh Hamilton; Miss Alma Headen (Mrs. J. L. Jackson); Miss Bertha L. Herndon (Mrs. S. T. Buie); Mrs. Vernon Idol, Sr.; Miss Violet Johnson; Mrs. M. L. Marriner; Jr. Cecil H. Marriner; and Mrs. Rodney E. Snow.





THE REVEREND CHARLES PAUL COBLE

CHAPTER XIII

PASTORATE OF THE REVEREND CHARLES PAUL COBLE

1913 - 1930

At a congregational meeting held on Sunday morning, December 22, 1912, a committee to investigate and nominate a successor to The Reverend A. S. Caldwell, Sr., was elected. This committee so named was C. T. Hamilton, Chairman; Dr. W. A. Hayes, and A. S. Caldwell, Jr. At this same meeting The Reverend Caldwell was asked to continue as pastor of the Church until April 1, 1913. He agreed to do so.

Almost immediately the Pulpit Committee began to cast about looking for a minister to recommend to the congregation as its pastor. Late in March the committee had agreed upon a name, and were ready to make a nomination, so a congregational meeting was called for April 6, 1913. At this meeting the name of The Reverend Charles Paul Coble, Pastor of the Vineville Avenue Presbyterian Church of Macon, Georgia, was presented.

A few months earlier Mr. Coble had preached a trial sermon for the congregation, and at the time he had made a wonderful impression upon the membership of the Church. When the Pulpit Committee presented his name as one recommended for Pastor and a vote was taken, it was ascertained that he had received a unanimous vote.

The call was sent to The Reverend Coble and he looked with favor upon it and soon wrote his acceptance of the call.

The Reverend Charles Paul Coble began his pastoral work in High Point on June 1, 1913. By the last of May, 1913, the Coble family, Mr. Coble, his wife Louise, and their two small sons, Charles P., Jr., and William H. were comfortably settled in the manse next door to the Church. At the time the Church membership was one-hundred and thirty-eight—not a large membership, but a devout and sincere group. In this small band was a number of outstanding men and women with vision and love for the interest and welfare of the Church—a vision that was bound to carry the work forward under the leadership of this active young minister, who had

accepted this Church as his field for carrying forward the Lord's work.

According to a directory published in the year of 1913, the population of High Point was 12,255, and by this time it was beginning to show signs of being a real industrial center. Manufacturing of furniture was the outstanding activity, and the attention of the outside world was being attracted to this town. Already it was rated as one of the up and coming towns of North Carolina.

At the beginning of The Reverend Mr. Coble's pastorate there were four elders: C. T. Hamilton, E. A. Snow, W. C. Herndon, and George L. Taylor, and four deacons: W. F. Norman, Dr. W. A. Hayes, F. M. Barbee, and S. E. Tucker. E. A. Snow was Clerk of the Session; J. D. Lloyd was Superintendent of the Sunday School; W. F. Norman, was Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday School; Dr. W. A. Hayes was Superintendent of the Primary Department, and W. C. Herndon was Church Treasurer.

A series of evangelistic services were held in the Church beginning Sunday, October 19, 1913. The Reverend Milton Clark, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro, North Carolina, was guest minister, conducting these services.

On November 2, 1913, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Denny were received into the Church by letters from the Presbyterian Church of Graham, North Carolina. On November 16, 1913, G. W. Denny was elected as an elder of this Church, and installed two weeks later. This Mr. G. W. Denny, just made an elder in the Church, was a nephew of Eli Denny, one of the charter elders of the Church.

A real spiritual awakening followed the evangelistic services conducted by The Reverend Mr. Clark and the congregation soon realized there was need for larger and better equipped quarters for the Sunday School. On November 16, 1913, a congregational meeting was held, at which time W. F. Norman submitted a sketch and plans for building an extension on to the back of the church building, which would give fourteen class rooms, and a large assembly room. At this same meeting it was also recommended that the congregation look towards purchasing of a more modern pipe organ—one to replace the old organ, which had to be pumped by hand. At this meeting the following committees were named to see what could be done about financing the cost of such improvements: Sunday School Room Committee; W. F. Norman, Dr. W. A. Hayes, Frank Wineskie, C. V. Cummings, and P. H. Johnson; Pipe Organ

Committee: W. G. Shipman, H. B. Hyde, Mrs. Ruby Bencini, Mrs. V. W. Idol, Sr., and Mrs. A. S. Caldwell, Jr.

These committees went about their tasks with real enthusiasm and evidently the whole membership of the Church was just as interested in these improvements as were the members of the committees. On January 18, 1914, a congregational meeting was held and Frank Wineskie, as Chairman of the Finance Committee, reported that the amount required to build the Sunday School addition was substantially pledged; and W. G. Shipman reported that contacts had been made with the Carnegie Fund, and that one-half of the \$1750 needed to purchase a new pipe organ would be donated by that organization, and that the balance needed had been pledged. The congregation after a full discussion of the matter decided to go forward with these additions and improvements, and to that end a special committee was elected to carry this work to conclusion: W. F. Norman, Chairman, Frank Wineskie, and Dr. W. A. Hayes. In addition to the building of the Sunday School room and the purchase of the pipe organ, the interior of the church was overhauled and repainted, and a modern heating system was installed. These improvements would cost about \$6500. This would put the Church in debt, but these changes were needed, and most of this amount had already been pledged.

On Sunday, November 9, 1913, Donald Headen, came before the Session, and after a very satisfactory examination, was received into the Church. On November 23, 1913, Mr. and Mrs. Carter Dalton were received into the membership of the Church by letters. Mr. Dalton, a grandson of The Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton, the founder and first pastor of the Church, coming from the First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro, and Mrs. Dalton from the West Market Methodist Episcopal Church of Greensboro.

At the Session meeting held at the manse on February 2, 1914, the Clerk of the Session was instructed to make an effort to purge the church roll of non-resident members by writing to all those whose addresses could be obtained and admonishing them to put their letters in a church where they then resided. After this work had been completed the Session ordered that the Clerk prepare and have printed a church Directory, showing the membership as of April 1, 1914.

At a Session Meeting held before services, Sunday morning February 15, 1914, it was decided to hold a series of meetings for one

week, beginning Sunday morning, February 22, 1914. The Pastor reported that he had been able to secure the services of The Reverend L. S. Chafer to assist with these meetings. On March 15, 1914, Mr. and Mrs. Lamar McCallum were received into the Church by letter from the Tatnell Square Presbyterian Church, Macon, Georgia.

In order that the church year 1914-1915, might be carried on in a more orderly way, as to finances, a regular budget was prepared and the Session called a congregational meeting for March 15, 1914—this meeting was to take the place of the regular morning service, so that the budget could be explained and fully discussed. The membership was divided into groups and elders and deacons assigned to each group, so that the every-member-canvass could be more quickly conducted that afternoon. At this same congregational meeting a motion was made to raise Mr. Coble's salary \$300.00 a year—making him receive a yearly salary of \$1500.00. This motion carried.

At the end of Church year, March 31, 1914, the Statistical Report showed: Elders nine; Deacons four; added to Church roll thirty-one; total membership one hundred and ninety; Sunday School enrollment two hundred and eighteen; total contributions \$2,743.00 (Benevolence \$788.00—Current Expense \$955.00—Pastor's Salary—10 months \$1,000.00.)

In early July 1914, the construction of the Sunday School rooms, remodeling of the interior of the church, and the installation of the pipe organ, were well underway. Because this was so it was impossible to hold services in the Church—even Prayer Meeting, or Sunday School—so Mr. Coble was given a vacation. By August 30, 1914, the work had progressed so services could be resumed in the sanctuary, but the rest of the new improvements were not completed until the first Sunday in October.

On September 22, 1914, a joint meeting of Elders and Deacons was held at the manse, with the Pastor presiding; Elders present, E. A. Snow, W. C. Herndon, C. T. Hamilton, and G. W. Denny; Deacons present, F. M. Barbee, and Dr. W. A. Hayes. Elder Hamilton made his report as delegate to Orange Presbytery which had recently met at Milton, North Carolina. He reported that Presbytery had accepted the invitation of the Church to hold the next Spring Meeting of Presbytery in it. The Farrington plan to raise money to pay the debt of the Foreign Mission Committee was fully discussed. By a unanimous vote the Session and Diaconate decided not to use

this plan to contribute to the Foreign Mission Committee, but to send a formal protest to Presbytery and Foreign Mission Committee, from the Church, against its going into debt from year to year.

The Session records show that on December 21, 1914, a joint meeting of the elders and deacons was held, and that the Church Treasurer, W. C. Herndon, reported that many members of the church were behind on their pledges to the expense, and benevolences for the year. Mr. W. F. Norman then reported that there was the same trouble with the pledges to the building fund. This money was badly needed so it was decided to make an extra effort to collect the pledges—if necessary to add additional deacons to help in doing it. A congregational meeting was called for January 3, 1915, to elect three additional deacons and the following deacons were elected: Carter Dalton, June A. Johnson, and A. S. Caldwell, Jr.

Up until this time no minutes of the meetings of the Board of Deacons had been kept, as a matter of fact the elders had been looking after the deacon's work, only asking the three or four deacons to meet with the Session occasionally. With the election of the three new deacons the deacons held an organizational meeting on February 4, 1915. This meeting was held at the residence of W. F. Norman, with Pastor Coble present and the following deacons: W. F. Norman, A. S. Caldwell, Jr., F. M. Barbee, June A. Johnson, Dr. W. A. Hayes, and Carter Dalton. W. F. Norman was elected Chairman, F. M. Barbee, Vice-Chairman, Carter Dalton, Secretary, and Elder W. C. Herndon, Treasurer.

On March 18, 1915, the Session met at the manse, and elected Sunday School officers for the coming year: G. W. Denny, Superintendent; Carter Dalton, Assistant Superintendent; Miss Minnie Pollock, Superintendent of the Primary Department, and W. C. Herndon, Secretary and Treasurer.

That a good Sunday School is the best investment a church can have is definitely proven, when one reads from the Session Minutes held on Sunday mornings, April 4 and 11, 1915, and finds that eighteen pupils from the Sunday School came before the Session on these two dates and joined the Church on profession of faith. Among this number were the names of Frank B. Smith and Miss Adele Wineskie (now Mrs. A. M. Rankin Jr.)

Orange Presbytery met in this church April 13, 1915.

The Statistical Report to Presbytery at the close of the year,

March 31, 1915, showed that the Church had made real progress in the first full year of Mr. Coble's pastorate. The Report showed: elders five; deacons seven; added to Church roll forty-one; total membership two hundred sixty-two; Sunday School enrollment two hundred and five; total contributions \$6,043.00. (Benevolences \$839.00—Building Fund and Equipment \$2,800.00—Current Expense \$904.00—Pastor's Salary \$1,500.00.)

The church year beginning April 1, 1915, found the work well organized and everything moving forward with much regularity.

According to recorded minutes the Board of Deacons did not meet again after the organization meeting February 4, 1915, until January 21, 1916. This meeting was held at the home of Elder W. C. Herndon, Church Treasurer. Those present were: Pastor Coble, W. F. Norman, W. C. Herndon, F. M. Barbee, Dr. W. A. Hayes, J. A. Johnson, and Carter Dalton. At this meeting W. C. Herndon, whose health had been poor for some time, tendered his resignation as Church Treasurer, effective April 1, 1916. At this time he stated that the reason for his resignation was because he was sick and unable to do the Treasurer's work, but that his wife would continue with it until March 31—the end of the church year. His resignation was accepted with regrets, but no action was taken at this meeting. Action was taken though at the Board Meeting held on January 31, 1916, when a general discussion of the Church's financial affairs was held and Diaconate Officers for the new year were elected. Those elected were: F. M. Barbee, Chairman; A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Vice-chairman; Carter Dalton, Secretary; and W. F. Norman, Treasurer.

Minutes of the Session show that Elder W. C. Herndon died on March 20, 1916, and at the Session meeting held on April 3, 1916, Resolutions of Respect were presented and adopted and a copy ordered filed as a part of the records of the meeting. With the passing of Mr. Herndon the life work of one of the most faithful members of the Church ended. He had served as a Deacon from 1897 to 1902; as an Elder to the time of his death, and as Church Treasurer from 1890, until his death, a period of twenty-six years.

At the Session meeting on April 3, 1916, officers for the Sunday School were elected for the new year as follows: A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Superintendent; Carter Dalton, Assistant Superintendent; and James Griffith, Secretary and Treasurer. At this same meeting it was decided to call a congregational meeting for April 16, 1916, for the purpose of electing three more elders. The report of the Church to the spring

Presbytery covering the year 1915-1916 showed that twenty had been added to the church rolls, but the dismissals brought the total membership to two hundred and fifty-seven, or five less than the report for the year before. At the congregational meeting on April 16, 1916, the three new elders elected: H. B. Hyde, Dr. W. A. Hayes, and F. M. Barbee were ordained and installed on April 30, 1916.

Again proving the value to any church of a good Sunday School, one finds on June 18, 1916, eleven young folks from the Sunday School coming before the Session and after a creditable examination as to their faith in Jesus Christ, were duly received into the communion of the Church.

On October 11, 1916, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Smith were received into the Church by letter from the First Lutheran Church of Greensboro, North Carolina, and on this same date A. E. Taplin was received into the Church by letter from South Ryegate, Vermont, and Mrs. A. E. Taplin, by letter from the Methodist Episcopal Church of Thomasville, North Carolina.

On October 15, 1916, W. F. Norman, representing the Board of Deacons appeared before the Session and asked that the elders consider the election of three more deacons, as two of the deacons had been recently elected elders. The Session granted the request and a congregational meeting was called for the first Sunday in November. Elder Snow reported that he had, as requested by the Session, had a talk with P. H. Johnson, who had been elected a deacon January 11, 1891, but had not accepted the office then. Mr. Johnson, he said, was now ready to take up the duties of deacon, so the Session ordered his name put on record to be ordained and installed. At the congregational meeting held on Sunday, November 5, 1916, the following three deacons were elected: Frank Wineskie, N. F. White, and Jas. J. Griffith, and these, with P. H. Johnson, were ordained and installed following the morning service on December 3, 1916. On November 12, 1916, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest M. Shipman were received by letter from the Presbyterian Church, Del Norte, Colorado.

At the Session meeting Sunday morning January 7, 1917, the record shows that elders present were H. B. Hyde, G. W. Denny, Dr. W. A. Hayes, F. M. Barbee, C. T. Hamilton, and E. A. Snow, and that each elder led in prayer for a blessing on the Church and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the coming year. What a fine start for a new year. Little did these elders know at that time, that

during that year the nation would be thrown into the World War and that extra Divine Guidance would be needed, not only in the church, but throughout the whole nation and even the whole world.

On February 16, 1917, the Board of Deacons held a meeting at the Commercial Club and discussed the finances of the church, and the every-member-canvass was planned. At this meeting Mr. Coble suggested that the men of the church hold a get-together social on March 15, 1917, with a view of stimulating the general welfare of the Church. This plan was adopted. Then the Board elected officers for the new church year as follows: A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Chairman; N. F. White, Vice-Chairman; Carter Dalton, Secretary; and W. F. Norman, Treasurer.

On April 1, 1917, after the morning service, at the request of the Board of Deacons, a congregational meeting was held. The Church Treasurer W. F. Norman, made a full report of the financial condition of the church covering the past year—it was a good report. The church had made real progress during the year, having met all obligations on time. Mr. Norman's report also showed that the pledges made at the recent every-member-canvass were an increase over the past year and that the work should go forward during the new year. After the report The Reverend Mr. Coble was asked to retire from the room and Elder Snow was elected Moderator, then Carter Dalton moved that the Church increase the pastor's salary \$300, making it \$1800 per annum. Frank Wineskie seconded this motion and it met with the unanimous approval of the congregation.

For further proof of real progress the Church had made for the year ending March 31, 1917, part of the information contained in a report to Orange Presbytery: Elders seven; Deacons eight; added to Church roll fifty-one; total membership two hundred and fifty-six; Sunday school enrollment two hundred ninety-three; total contributions \$5,059.00 (Benevolences, \$1340.00 — Building and Equipment, \$1,000.00—Current Expense, \$919.00—Pastor's Salary, \$1,800.00.)

At April 2, 1917, Session meeting reports from the Ladies' Aid and Missionary Societies were read, and much favorable comment was made as to the fine work that had been accomplished by them. At this same meeting officers for the Sunday School for the new year were elected as follows: A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Superintendent; Carter Dalton, Assistant Superintendent; J. J. Griffith, Secretary and Treasurer; and Mrs. E. M. Shipman, Superintendent Primary Department.

The new church year of 1917-1918, started out with all branches of the Church well organized and the prospects bright for another year of great accomplishments. War had been going on in Europe since 1914, and naturally this country was called upon to supply food, clothing, ammunition, and all kinds of supplies, which made business good, but up to that time our country had not entered the conflict. Our President and the United States Congress were worried over the turn of things and it was evident that the United States would likely soon be drawn into the terrible war. On April 6, 1917, our nation was thrown into the World War. Excitement reigned everywhere, troops were being mobilized, young men enlisting, and our city, like every other one in the nation, stood willing and ready to do its part. During the months of May, June, July, and August the records show few joined the Church, there being only two meetings of the Session recorded, and two meetings of the Board of Deacons. However, everything worked along in an orderly way, matters of routine were handled, but nothing of special importance was attempted.

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Deacons March 23, 1918, shows that the Board unanimously agreed that the Church was able and ought to raise the salary of Pastor Coble from \$1800 to \$2000 per year; so it was decided to ask the Session to call a congregational meeting for this purpose for Sunday, April 7, 1918. At this same Deacon Meeting officers for the new church year were elected as follows: N. F. White, Chairman; James J. Griffith, Vice-Chairman; Frank Wineskie, Secretary; and W. F. Norman, Treasurer.

At a Session meeting held on March 10, 1918, there is recorded that Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Denny were received into the Church, by letters from the Red Springs, North Carolina, Presbyterian Church on that date.

At the March 29, 1918, meeting the Session decided to join with the other city churches and hold simultaneous evangelistic services during the month of June, if Mr. Coble could secure the services of The Reverend Eugene Caldwell to assist him, in these services.

At a congregational meeting held on Sunday, April 7, 1918, W. W. Smith was unanimously elected an elder, and installed on the third Sunday in April—ordination not being necessary since he had previously served as an elder in the Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, at Greensboro, North Carolina.

At this same congregational meeting W. F. Norman, Church Treasurer, made a report in regard to past year's finances. It showed that all obligations had been met and that the pledges for the new church year showed an increase over the previous one. Mr. Coble was then asked to retire and Elder E. A. Snow was elected Moderator, then Frank Wineskie, in line with previous action of the Board of Deacons, made a motion to increase the pastor's salary by \$200, making it \$2000 per annum. A. S. Caldwell, Jr., seconded this motion and the motion unanimously carried.

On April 8, 1918, the Session met at the Commercial Club for the purpose of electing Sunday School officers for the new year and to make out a report to Orange Presbytery. Sunday School Officers for the new year were elected as follows: Carter Dalton, Superintendent; A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Assistant Superintendent; W. F. Norman, Superintendent of Senior Department; Mrs. E. M. Shipman, Superintendent Primary Department; James J. Griffith, Secretary and Treasurer; Dr. W. A. Hayes, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer; and W. E. Snow, Secretary of Primary Department. At this meeting it was also decided to have a music committee of five members to have charge of all the music of the Church in all its departments and the following committee was elected: Mrs. W. G. Shipman, Chairman, Mrs. W. A. Hayes, T. J. Gold, H. B. Hyde, and Mrs. A. E. Taplin. The Session elected Elder F. M. Barbee as chairman of the Reception Committee for Church Services and also Sunday School. The report to Presbytery was made out and approved.

Then the Session highly commended the P. H. Dalton Missionary Society and the Ladies' Aid Society, for the fine work they had done throughout the year.

The yearly report to Presbytery showed there were eight elders and eight deacons in the Church at this time. Perhaps you would be interested to know just who they were, so a list of their names is put here for your information, as of April 1, 1918: *Elders*: E. A. Snow, Clerk; George L. Taylor, C. T. Hamilton, F. M. Barbee, G. W. Denny, H. B. Hyde, Dr. W. A. Hayes, W. W. Smith. *Deacons*: W. F. Norman, Chairman; Carter Dalton, A. S. Caldwell, Jr., June A. Johnson, P. H. Johnson, Frank Wineskie, N. F. White, and James J. Griffith.

The World War was still under way. All young men under the age limit had been registered and drafts were being made, and many young men were already in training camps. The Church had

responded in a fine and patriotic way, not only furnishing men, but subscribing to Liberty Bonds, and sacrificing in many ways to help the government in this great struggle.

The Session minutes show that during this time their meetings were not held with the same regularity as in the past, and the Board of Deacons failed to record any of its activities until April 3, 1921.

On September 2, 1918, Carter Dalton came before the Session and resigned as Superintendent of Sunday School, and asked for immediate action as his health was such that he would be unable to look after the work longer. The resignation was accepted and W. F. Norman was elected to succeed Mr. Dalton.

Services in the church were being held with the usual regularity but the effects of the World War were noticeable in the Church. Few joined it, either by letter or on examination during the spring, summer and fall months of 1918. On November 11, 1918, came the signing of the Armistice and great rejoicing. The terrible War was over—mothers, wives, and sweethearts were jubilant. Before many months loved ones would be returning home. Even sober minded sour faced dads were elated and talked tenderly about the return of the boys. To some the War had left a vacant chair, an empty bed, a broken heart—to others it would return wounded, crippled, and maimed boys—loved ones who had left home only a short time ago the flower of manhood. What a price to pay, but thank God it was over. The names of those who served in World War No. 1 who were members of the Church, at that time, or members of the Sunday School, were: Louis E. Bennett, William J. Bennett, Ben F. Caffey, John R. Carroll, J. Clyde Cummings, O. E. Cummings, Thomas Byrd Dupree, Guy D. Grimes, Dennis H. Hall, Jr., Hugh Hamilton, Oscar B. Haney, J. Allie Herndon, Eugene D. Idol, J. Carl Kaneer, Paul Jones Myatt, E. D. McPhaul, David H. Parnell, Rodney Roach, Stephen B. Shelton, Rodney E. Snow, William W. Walker. John R. Carroll was killed in action over-seas and on the service flag of the Church was placed a Gold Star for him.

No records are left behind to definitely record what special Thanksgiving services were held on Thanksgiving Day 1918, but it is remembered that a great service was held, for there was so much to be thankful for as individuals, as a Church and as a Nation. The War had made business good; all individuals and firms had prospered, and this Church was in a splendid financial condition. At a congregational meeting held after service Sunday morning, April 6, 1919, W. F. Norman, Church Treasurer, reported that all

obligations of the Church had been met, liberal amounts had been sent to each church cause; and that a balance remained in the treasury. He reported further that the pledges for the new church year 1919-1920 beginning on April 1, 1919, showed that after allowing for all local church expense and a liberal amount to the benevolences of the Church that the amount pledged would be about \$1000 in excess of the amount required—based upon past years needs.

Upon motion of Carter Dalton, duly seconded by Frank Wine-skie, and unanimously carried the congregation tendered a vote of thanks to Mr. Norman, in appreciation of his untiring efforts in keeping the church finances in such good condition. After Pastor Coble had retired by request, Elder E. A. Snow was elected Moderator and Frank Wineskie moved that the congregation raise the salary of Mr. Coble from \$2000 per year to \$2400; A. S. Caldwell, Jr., seconded this motion and with a full meeting of the congregation the motion carried by a unanimous vote.

On April 7, 1919, the Session met in the session room at the church and made out and approved the report of the Church to be sent to Orange Presbytery, which would meet at Reidsville, North Carolina, on April 19, 1919. At this Session meeting the Ladies' Aid and P. H. Dalton Missionary Society filed reports covering the year's work. The reports were fine and the Session passed a resolution commending the ladies for their earnest and faithful services to the Master's cause in the Church. Officers for the Sunday School for the new year were elected as follows: Superintendent, W. F. Norman; Assistant Superintendent, Eugene Idol; Superintendent of Attendance, A. S. Caldwell, Jr.; Superintendent of Primary Department, Mrs. E. M. Shipman; Secretary, W. E. Herndon; and Treasurer, Dr. W. A. Hayes.

The Statistical Report to Presbytery at the end of Church year, March 31, 1919, gave these facts about the Church: Elders eight; Deacons eight; added to Church roll sixty-four; total membership two hundred and seventy; Sunday School enrollment two hundred and fifty-seven; total contributions \$6,188.00. (Benevolences, \$1,788.00—Current Expense \$2,400.00—Pastor's Salary \$2,000.00.)

At a meeting of the Session Sunday morning July 27, 1919, a vacation was granted The Reverend Coble for the month of August, and it was decided to dispense with services for the first three Sundays during this month. On September 9, 1919, W. F. Norman came before the Session and tendered his resignation as Superintendent of

the Sunday School, and Elder F. M. Barbee was elected to fill this office until the end of the church year, March 31, 1920. The Session also decided to lay plans for a series of evangelistic meetings during the fall, provided a suitable preacher could be found to help Mr. Coble.

On Sunday morning September 14, 1919, the Session, in regular meeting before the 11 o'clock worship, formulated and approved the following communication:

"To the Presbytery of Orange,

"Dear Brethren:

"Having been informed of the decision of Hugh Hamilton to study for the Gospel Ministry and of his intention to place himself under the care of Presbytery of Orange at the coming meeting in North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, the Session of the First Presbyterian Church desires to express its gratification and thanksgiving to God, that another of her Sons has consecrated his life to the service of Christ and to give our hearty approval and express our commendation of Mr. Hamilton, and to assure Presbytery that he is in every way a suitable and promising Candidate for the Ministry. He was brought up in our Sunday School and Church and has always been faithful and diligent in his Church relations. He has had splendid home training and his character is above reproach. We are glad to commend him to the Presbytery, and at the same time pray God's richest blessings upon him that God may use him abundantly.

CHARLES P. COBLE, *Moderator*
E. A. SNOW, *Clerk*"

At the Session Meeting September 8, 1919, Elder C. T. Hamilton was elected Representative to the fall meeting of Presbytery. It was with real pride that Elder Hamilton attended the Presbytery meeting at North Wilkesboro, North Carolina. He was not only carrying a good report from his Church, but he was going to see his son Hugh placed under the care of Orange Presbytery as a Ministerial Student.

A Congregational Meeting was held on Sunday, April 4, 1920. The Church Treasurer, W. F. Norman, made a report of the yearly receipts and disbursements. The report was very gratifying as it showed a marked increase over the previous year, and the report showed that almost the entire amount pledged for year 1919-1920

had been collected. Even more had been paid in than had been pledged. He also reported that pledges for the new year had been secured and that the amount pledged was a substantial increase over the year before. At this meeting Mr. Coble's salary was increased \$300 per year making the new salary \$2700 per annum. Dan Smith had been directing the choir for some six or eight months and he had resigned; so the meeting tendered him a vote of thanks in appreciation of his services and expressed regrets that he had seen fit to resign as Choir Director.

On April 14, 1920, the Session met and made out report to go to Presbytery covering the years work which ended March 31, 1920.

At the same meeting the Session elected Sunday School officers for the new church year as follows: Superintendent, Elder W. W. Smith; Assistant Superintendent, A. S. Caldwell, Jr.; Superintendent of Attendance, W. F. Norman; Superintendent Primary Department, Mrs. E. M. Shipman; Secretary, W. E. Herndon; and Treasurer, Dr. W. A. Hayes. Mrs. W. G. Shipman was elected Musical Director for choir and Sunday School and Miss Thelma Wineskie was elected organist for the Church Services.

On May 5, 1920, Mr. Coble was taken seriously ill and had to be taken to the High Point Hospital, where he underwent a serious surgical operation. On Sunday, May 9, 1920, The Reverend S. M. Rankin filled the pulpit, and at a meeting of the Session on that date over which he presided the minutes show that the operation upon The Reverend Mr. Coble was successful, but in all likelihood it would be quite a time before he would be able to be back in the pulpit again. A committee of three officers was named to get a supply for the pulpit until Mr. Coble could recover and again take up his work. This Committee was as follows: Elder C. T. Hamilton, Elder W. A. Hayes, and Deacon A. S. Caldwell, Jr. The Session minutes show on July 11, 1920, that Mr. Coble after a long siege of illness, had recovered to the extent that he could again take up his active duties. His leadership had been seriously missed, and the church membership was indeed happy over his recovery and return.

The Sunday School again proved its true worth to the Church when on Sunday morning November 14, 1920, fifteen candidates came before the Session and asked to be admitted into the communion of the Church on profession of faith. Among this number one finds the names of Ernestine Hayes, John William Herndon, and Thomas J. Gold, Jr. A goodly number to come at one time, which

shows the Sunday School had been training along the right lines, and properly appealing to the hearts of its pupils.

A joint meeting of Elders and Deacons of this Church was held on January 22, 1921, at the Commercial Club at 7:30 P. M. Pastor Coble called the meeting to order and Elder E. A. Snow opened it with prayer. Those present were: Charles P. Coble, Pastor; Elders W. W. Smith, G. W. Denny, E. A. Snow, Dr. W. A. Hayes; Deacons, Frank Wineskie, A. S. Caldwell, Jr., W. F. Norman, Carter Dalton, P. H. Johnson, S. E. Tucker.

Mr. Coble stated that the object of the meeting was to consider the erection of a Hut, or to build more room to accommodate the growing Sunday School, especially the Young Ladies' Class, and also to provide suitable room for social gatherings. Upon motion of A. S. Caldwell, Jr., seconded by S. E. Tucker and unanimously carried it was decided to recommend to the congregation that the Church build a Hut on the rear of the church lot; repair the manse, re-roof the main Church auditorium, as it was in bad condition; and put down cement sidewalks. Frank Wineskie was elected as chairman of a committee of three, the other two members to be named by him, to make a study of the cost of these improvements and to get plans in shape so that the matter could be properly presented to the congregation.

On February 2, 1921, W. F. Norman was claimed by death. This was more than a passing loss to the church. He had served as Deacon, Chairman of the Board of Deacons, Church Treasurer, Sunday School Superintendent, and a member that was always put on all important committees, because he simply got things done in the most pleasing sort of way. Pastor Coble said of this man that he, "W. F. (Flem) Norman, was the best all around Deacon he had ever known." Church finances had been running along smoothly for a good many years, which all goes to show that Deacon Norman had organized the work well and had put much time and thought into this branch of the Church's work. At a joint meeting of the Elders and Deacons on March 4, 1921, Elder W. A. Hayes was elected Church Treasurer to succeed W. F. Norman. The Board of Deacons selected Sunday March 20, 1921, as the day to conduct the every-member-canvass, and requested the Session to consider electing three additional deacons. At this same joint meeting the Session decided to call a congregational meeting for Sunday March 20, 1921, for the purpose of electing three additional deacons, and also for the purpose of laying before the church membership the matter of building a Hut on the corner of Green and Rankin (now Wrenn). The con-

gregational meeting was held on March 20, 1921. The three new deacons elected were: D. M. Pollock, A. E. Taplin, and E. M. Shipman. The matter about building the Hut was postponed until the next Sunday, March 27, 1921. On that date Deacon Frank Wineskie made a report, which showed that the Hut proposed would cost around \$7500 and that the other improvements which would have to be done, probably not as much as \$1000. After much talk and discussion the congregation decided to go ahead with this undertaking and the entire matter was put in the hands of the Board of Deacons to carry to conclusion. The congregation also gave the Church Trustees authority to borrow money from individuals, Banks or Building and Loan Companies and to execute a mortgage securing same on the church property. On April 3, 1921, the three men newly elected as deacons were ordained and installed as deacons of the Church.

The Session met with the Pastor at the manse Monday evening April 4, 1921, to make out the yearly report of the Church so that it could be sent to Presbytery which was to meet at Madison, North Carolina on April 12, 1921. The report in part is as follows:

Elders seven; Deacons ten; added to Church roll thirty-four; total membership three hundred; Sunday School enrollment three hundred and seventeen; total contributions \$10,967.00. (Benevolences \$5,252.00—Current Expense \$3,015.00—Pastor's Salary \$2,700.00.)

At this same meeting the Session elected the following Sunday School officers for the new church year: Superintendent, R. E. Ranson; Assistant Superintendent, A. S. Caldwell, Jr.; Superintendent, Primary Department, Mrs. E. M. Shipman; Secretary and Treasurer, W. E. Herndon; and Assistant Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. W. A. Hayes.

Recorded minutes indicate that the Board of Deacons met on April 4, 1921, and after electing Carter Dalton as Chairman for the new year and S. E. Tucker, Secretary, the Board with Pastor Coble present, went into executive session to consider matters that the congregation had assigned to the Board for handling. Frank Wineskie stated that he thought the first thing the Board ought to decide was just what it proposed to do. He offered the following motion: "That the Chairman of the Board proceed to get up a petition for subscriptions to build a Hut; repair the manse and church; and lay cement walks in front of the church, and if possible, out of the funds sub-

scribed, build a new manse." This motion was duly seconded and carried. Results from the canvass for special subscriptions, as reported by Deacon meetings on May 5, and 9, 1921, pledges amounting to \$11,700 had been secured. Frank Wineskie, W. E. Snow, and D. M. Pollock were elected by the Board as the building committee, and S. E. Tucker, Treasurer of the Building Fund. The contract for the construction of the Hut for \$7340.00 was awarded to Warner & Deal, local contractors, with the promise that the Hut would be completed and ready for use by the last of October. The other matters, as to repairing the manse and the church roof, and the putting down of cement sidewalks were to be taken care of at a later date.

About this time the thought of buying a lot in the residential section of the city and building a manse there, was being seriously considered—this was deemed especially necessary, since a brick building had been erected very close to the north side of the manse, cutting off most of the air, causing the heat to be very oppressive during the summer months.

High Point had been growing by leaps and bounds in population, city development, manufacturing, and merchandising—it was showing signs of some day becoming a real city. The 1920 United States Government Census showed the population to be 14,302 against 1910 census of 9,525. Numbers of factories of various kinds had been built; many streets had been paved; extensive water system built; many good school buildings constructed; and many expensive and lovely homes had been erected. During World War One and for a year or so following, business throughout the Nation had been unusually good and firms and individuals had prospered, with High Point having the edge, on many other sections, in growth and prosperity.

The First Presbyterian Church was growing. Reports for each year showed that gains were being made and that the congregation was now in position to assume heavier obligations and to carry on a larger program of work and activity.

During the last of October, 1921, the Hut was completed and the officers of the Church personally paid the expense of a big supper which the ladies' prepared and served, at which time the formal opening, with suitable exercises, was held. On October 16, 1921, C. C. Garrett was received into the membership of the Church by letter from the Fourth Street Church, First Methodist Episcopal, Wheeling, West Virginia, and Mrs. Garrett was received by letter from the Alamance Presbyterian Church, of Orange Presbytery.

Elder E. A. Snow had not been well for several months and on March 20, 1922, he passed away. On April 9, 1922, the Session met at the home of Mrs. E. A. Snow and passed the following resolution of respect:

"Sacred to the Memory of Mr. E. A. Snow

"Whereas our Heavenly Father has removed from our midst our beloved brother and co-laborer in the Gospel, Mr. Ernest Ansel Snow, we the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, desire to record our profound sorrow which this separation has caused, and the great loss which this Church has sustained. Never-the-less we bow in humble submission to the will of Him who doeth all things well. We would express our gratitude to Almighty God for the life and the useful service of Brother Snow. For thirty years he was an Elder in this Church; for many years the efficient Clerk of this Session; for a quarter of a century he was Superintendent of Sunday School, and under his administration the School prospered greatly. By his personal effort he conducted and sustained a mission among the laboring people of our city. In the Service of the Church he was ever constant; always present at the Services of the Sanctuary, and loved assembly of God's people. Of his time and thought and effort and money he gave generously to the advancement of Christ's Church in the world.

"And now that God has taken him, we cannot but miss his presence and mourn his loss. And yet we are thankful that God spared him to serve in this Church so long and so well.

"On March the 20, 1922, he fell to sleep. Our sympathy goes out to his bereaved family, and to the Church he served so long and well, and to the multitude of friends who loved him. We shall ever cherish the memory of our association and labors together and look forward to the day when we shall, we trust, by Divine Grace, all be reunited in praise and service, in the Church Triumphant, in the presence of his Lord and ours.

Done in Session.

April 9, 1922."

Charles P. Coble, Moderator
 G. W. Denny
 W. A. Hayes
 W. W. Smith
 H. B. Hyde
 Geo. L. Taylor—Elders"

The Church year ending March 31, 1922, in the Statistical Report to Presbytery, shows the following: Elders five; Deacons nine; added to Church roll thirty-seven; total membership three hundred and thirty-four; Sunday School enrollment two hundred and ninety; total contributions \$12,561.00 (Benevolences \$4,341.00 — Building Improvements \$3,523.00 — Current Expense \$1,997.00—Pastor's Salary \$2,700.00.)

On April 9, 1922, Elder W. A. Hayes was elected Clerk of the Session, succeeding E. A. Snow. Sunday School Officers for the church year 1922-1923, beginning April 1, 1922, were elected by the Session as follows: Superintendent, R. E. Ranson; Assistant Superintendent, D. E. Headen; Superintendent of Primary Department, Mrs. E. M. Shipman; Secretary, Dr. W. A. Hayes; Treasurer, W. E. Herndon.

On May the first at a regular meeting the Session decided to call a congregational meeting for Sunday morning May 14, 1922, for the purpose of electing three new elders. A congregational meeting was held on May 14, 1922, and three new elders were elected as follows: William G. Wiley, A. S. Caldwell, Jr., and A. E. Taplin. Two of these new elders were on the Board of Deacons, so on June 18, 1922, another congregational meeting was held and three new deacons were elected as follows: K. C. Denny, W. B. Kimmons, and W. E. Snow. These newly elected elders and deacons all accepted their offices and were duly ordained and installed on Sunday, June 25, 1922.

The Reverend Mr. Coble was given a vacation for the month of August and by the first of September he was back with everything in the Church beginning to take on new life. On September 12, 1922, a committee of three, A. E. Caldwell, Jr., Chairman; D. M. Pollock, and Dr. W. A. Hayes, was appointed to conduct a Fund Campaign for Davidson College. On October 2, 1922, R. E. Ranson appeared before the Session and resigned as Superintendent of Sunday School. D. E. Headen, Assistant Superintendent was asked to look after this work for the balance of the church year. The discussion of holding a special evangelistic service during the fall months followed, if a guest minister could be secured.

On October 15, 1922, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Bartlett were received into the Church Communion by letter from the "Church by the Side of the Road," Greensboro, North Carolina. On February 18, 1923, Mr. and Mrs. F. Logan Porter, Sr., were received as members

by letter from the Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, North Carolina. On March 11, 1923, Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Brockmann were received into the membership of this Church by letter from the "Church by the Side of the Road," Greensboro, North Carolina.

On April 4, 1923, following the prayer meeting service the Session met and elected Sunday School Officers for the new church year 1923-1924, beginning April 1, 1923, as follows: Superintendent, D. E. Headen; Assistant Superintendent, F. Logan Porter; Secretary and Treasurer, W. E. Herndon; Superintendent of Intermediate Department, Miss Alma Headen; Superintendent Junior Department, Mrs. W. G. Shipman; Superintendent of Primary Department, Mrs. E. M. Shipman. Elder W. A. Hayes tendered his resignation as Clerk of the Session on April 4, 1923, stating that his duties as Church Treasurer, and the Sunday School work he did were all he had time to look after. A. S. Caldwell, Jr., was elected to succeed him. A report was made out to go to Orange Presbytery covering the work for the church year ending March 31, 1923, which report was approved by the Session and some of the totals are as follows:

Elders eight; Deacons ten; added to Church roll forty-eight; total membership three hundred and sixty-seven; Sunday School enrollment three hundred and fourteen; total contributions \$21,281.00 (Benevolences \$6,684.00 — Special Davidson College Fund \$3,000.00—Special Barium Springs Orphanage \$2,000.00—Current Expense \$6,797.00—Pastor's Salary \$2,700.00.)

A congregational meeting was held on April 8, 1923. After being duly organized with Elder G. W. Denny as Moderator and Elder W. A. Hayes as Clerk, Carter Dalton made a motion that the salary of Pastor Coble be raised from \$2700 to \$3000 per annum, this was seconded by C. C. Garrett and with a full meeting the vote was unanimous. Church Treasurer, W. A. Hayes made a report to the congregation which showed much progress and that the finances were in good condition. During the past year the Church had raised \$21,281, which was the best, by far the Church had ever done.

Deacon Frank Wineskie, Chairman of the Special Committee that had built the Hut and made other improvements in the church and manse, made a report showing that the Board of Deacons had secured approximately enough pledges to warrant the building of a new manse. At his request the congregation unanimously voted to build one. Then at Mr. Wineskie's request they voted to add to the

Building Committee, the names of their wives. This made the Building Committee, to secure a lot and build the new manse, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wineskie; Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Caldwell, Jr.; and Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Taplin.

The Building Committee considered several locations for the new manse. Mr. S. C. Clark, a member of the Church while his mother was living, and a Realtor, offered at a very low figure, a lot on Hillcrest Drive, in Emerywood. Elder A. E. Taplin, a member of the Committee offered to donate a lot on the corner of Colonial and Woodland Drives. The Committee decided to accept the Taplin offer, and Mr. S. C. Clark made a cash donation of \$500.00 towards the expense of building the manse.

A turn-key contract, for building the manse at the cost of \$10,000.00 was given Mr. J. F. Hedrick in the Spring of 1923. Construction work on the manse was completed on March 25, 1924, and the Coble family soon moved into their new home.

The Board of Deacons through its Special Manse Committee had decided to subscribe to \$10,000 of building and loan stock in the spring of 1921. The arrangement was made with the High Point Perpetual Building & Loan Company. The monthly payments of \$100 were paid until the loan on the manse was made, then with the interest the monthly payments increased to \$150. The \$10,000 was paid in full by February 1, 1928, yet the debt had not been a burden because of the far sighted plans of the Committee.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Perry were received into the fellowship and communion of this Church by letter from the First Presbyterian Church, Salisbury, North Carolina, on May 6, 1923.

During the early part of the month of May, 1923, there was held a special ten-day evangelistic meeting with The Reverend R. G. McClees, D.D., of Chatham, Virginia, a blind Presbyterian minister, assisting Pastor Coble. The results of this series of meetings were very gratifying. The records show that on May 20, 1923, thirty-four joined the Church.

Among the names of those joining the Church at this time, one finds the names of George E. Hutchins, and Vernon W. Idol, Jr., (both now being Elders in this Church.)

The officers and the membership of the Church were mighty happy and thankful for this great revival meeting—thankful that so many had given their hearts to God and dedicated their lives to Him.

The whole membership had been thoroughly aroused to a greater consciousness of the work of the Church. On June 10, 1923, Pleasant Hunter Dalton, III, a grandson of the Founder and first Pastor of this Church, and a namesake of his, came before the Session and after a satisfactory examination was received on profession of faith into the communion and fellowship of this Church.

On October 8, 1923, at a regular meeting of the Session, the following testimonial to the Executive Committee of Foreign Missions at Nashville, Tennessee, was adopted:

"We the Session of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, in the Presbytery of Orange, having personal knowledge of Miss Alma Headen, who is a member of this Church, hereby recommend her as a suitable person for appointment as a foreign missionary. Miss Headen is in our opinion the very person you want for the position. She is an earnest, efficient Christian, entirely suitable for missionary work. Adopted in Session this 8th day of October 1923."

Charles P. Coble, Pastor

A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Clerk

Miss Headen received an appointment and was sent by the Foreign Mission Board in 1924, to Luebo, Africa, to be secretary and helper to Dr. Allen Craig, who was Missionary in charge of the whole Presbyterian Church Congo Mission. In December 1932, she was married to Mr. J. L. Jackson, a teacher in one of the Congo Mission Schools.

The women of the Church had been organized for several years and were doing fine work, so on November 16, 1923, at a Session meeting Mr. Coble presented a plan to organize the men-of-the-Church. This plan was discussed and met with the approval of the Elders; so the Session voted to put the plan into effect as early as possible.

On December 31, 1923, Donald Headen resigned as Superintendent of the Sunday School, and the Session elected F. Logan Porter, Sr., as the Superintendent, and D. M. Pollock was elected as Assistant Superintendent. At this same meeting Mrs. E. M. Shipman resigned as Superintendent of the Primary Department, and Mrs. Carter Dalton was elected to succeed her in that position.

After considerable discussion by the elders at their meeting on February 22, 1924, the Session decided that it would call a congre-

gational meeting for Sunday morning March 9, 1924, for the purpose of electing three additional deacons and two additional elders. At this meeting Carter Dalton and F. Logan Porter, Sr. were elected as elders. Due to the fact that Carter Dalton was an active Deacon and that the notice and call was for the election of three additional deacons, it was decided that four should be elected instead of three on account of Deacon Dalton being elected an Elder. The congregation then elected four new deacons as follows: Charles W. Perry, C. C. Garrett, W. E. Herndon, and A. Sam White. All of these newly elected elders and deacons accepted the office and on Sunday March 23, 1924, were ordained and installed.

The Session met on April 10, 1824, to make out the report to Presbytery covering the activities for the church year 1923-1924, and to transact any other business that might come before it for handling.

Sunday School Officers for the new year were elected as follows: Superintendent, F. Logan Porter, Sr.; Assistant Superintendent, D. M. Pollock; Superintendent Primary Department, Mrs. Carter Dalton; Superintendent of Cradle Roll, Miss Idelia Hayes; Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. W. A. Hayes.

A Narrative and Statistical Report to Presbytery at the end of Church Year, March 31, 1924, showed: Fifty-five families held Family Worship, and that fifty-one persons tithed. It also showed: Elders ten; Deacons twelve; added to Church roll eighty-four; total membership three hundred and ninety-four; Sunday School enrollment three hundred and thirty-one; total contributions \$25,193.00. (Benevolences, \$5,743.00—Building Fund, Improvements, \$9,653.00—Current Expense, \$6,797.00—Pastor's Salary, \$3,000.00.)

The report shows that the Church was wide awake and its membership was working both spiritually and financially. A wonderful report, and it must have been with a great deal of pride that Elder G. W. Denny and Pastor Coble presented it to Spring Presbytery, which met this time in the High Point Church.

The spring and summer months of the church year, 1924-1925, passed by with all departments of the Church carrying on in an efficient and satisfactory way. The Session on September 3, 1924, began to consider a series of evangelistic services for the last of September and the first of October. After some discussion it was decided to hold these special services; so Dr. Gregg of Rock Hill, South Carolina, was secured to assist Mr. Coble with them.

On October 23, 1924, the Diaconate met and elected D. M. Pollock as Chairman of the Board to succeed Carter Dalton, who had been elected an elder. The Music Committee reported to this meeting of the Board that it was having trouble and wished to be relieved of its duties. The Board accepted the resignations of the committee and then elected as a new committee, P. H. Johnson, Chairman, S. E. Tucker, and Frank Wineskie, to be responsible for the music, with full power to act. This incorporated the employing of a Music Director, an Organist, Singers, ordering sheet music, and doing such other things as would make the choir a success. This Committee was authorized to spend up to \$175 per month if necessary. The Board further ordered that this committee should be accountable only to the Board of Deacons. It was decided to drop the name of June A. Johnson from the list as a deacon of this Church, as he had not attended any of the meetings for several years. On December 18, 1924, the Board of Deacons met at the Commercial Club and at this meeting S. E. Tucker resigned as Secretary, stating that his time was needed as Treasurer of the Building Fund. The Board accepted, with a vote of thanks for his efficient work, and Charles W. Perry was elected to succeed him.

On March 26, 1925, the Board of Deacons met in the Director's Room at the Commercial Club and the finances of the Church were discussed in detail. The body went on record as favoring the calling of a congregational meeting, subject to the approval of the Session as soon as notice could be given, for the purpose of recommending to the congregation that the Pastor's salary be raised from \$3000 to \$3600 per year.

The Session ordered a congregational meeting as requested by the Diaconate for Sunday morning, April 5, 1925. At this time Church Treasurer Hayes made a report covering the church year which closed March 31, 1925. The whole report was very encouraging, and especially the report on the every-member-canvass, for it showed that a marked increase had been pledged for the ensuing year. At this meeting the recommendation of the Board of Deacons as to increasing Mr. Coble's salary from \$3000 to \$3600 per year was presented in the form of a motion by C. C. Garrett, and duly seconded by F. Logan Porter, Sr. The motion carried unanimously.

The Session met in the Pastor's Study on April 16, 1925, to make out the yearly report to the Presbytery, and to transact all other business coming up for attention at this time. Sunday School officers for the new church year were elected as follows: Superinten-

dent, F. Logan Porter, Sr.; Assistant Superintendent, Charles W. Perry; Superintendent Primary Department, Mrs. Carter Dalton; Secretary, Dr. W. A. Hayes; Treasurer, W. E. Herndon.

Important facts from the Church Report to Presbytery on March 31, 1925, are as follows: Elders ten; Deacons eleven; added to Church roll forty-two; total membership three-hundred and ninety-five; Sunday School enrollment three hundred and fifty-nine; total contributions \$19,807.00 (Benevolences, \$5,106.00—Building Fund, \$3,947.00—Current Expenses, \$7,754.00—Pastor's Salary, \$3,000.00.)

The organizations of the Church at this time were: the Session, the Board of Deacons, the Sunday School, the Woman's Auxiliary, the Men-of-the-Church Club, three Young People's Societies, and two Boy Scout Troops:

On April 21, 1925, the Deacons met for the purpose of electing officers for the new year. This election had been delayed because of the fact that D. M. Pollock, Chairman of the Board had moved to Florida the last of March. The officers elected were as follows: Chairman, P. H. Johnson; Vice-Chairman, C. C. Garrett; Secretary, Charles W. Perry; Treasurer, Elder W. A. Hayes. It was decided at this meeting to request the Session to call a congregational meeting as early as convenient for the purpose of electing five additional deacons.

During the late summer months of 1925, after several conferences, and listening to numerous business men from Gastonia, North Carolina, tell of the wonderful results accomplished in that city by George T. Stephens and party, the Ministerial Association of High Point decided to hold, in the fall, a city wide evangelistic meeting for six weeks.

The Stephens Party came to the city in September and work was immediately started on a large tabernacle. This building was constructed out of rough lumber, on the city lot on the corner of North Main Street, and Church Street, by men of the various church congregations.

The Presbyterian Church co-operated in these evangelistic meetings, and as a result there came before the Session of it on November 1, 1925, thirty persons wishing to unite with the Church. Nine of these coming by letter and twenty-one on profession of faith. Fourteen of the twenty-one which joined on profession of faith were

young folks enrolled in the regular Sunday School. One week later, on November 8, 1925, twelve more joined the Church, eleven on profession of faith, and one by letter. The next Sunday, November 15, 1925, twelve others became members of the Church, eight on profession of faith, and four by letter. This made a total for the year that joined the Church during the George Stephens and Party's, evangelistic meetings—and immediately following—fifty-four.

Following the close of the city-wide evangelistic meetings; the enrollment of many new members, and the renewed interest in the church's work by the whole membership, considerable talk began about building a new church, with more room for all of the church's departments. The church auditorium would not accommodate the attendance at Sunday morning services, and the Sunday School was terribly over crowded.

On December 8, 1925, the Board of Deacons met in the Director's Room of the Commercial Club. Those present were: Charles P. Coble, Pastor, P. H. Johnson, Frank Wineskie, W. E. Herndon, E. M. Shipman, C. C. Garrett, S. E. Tucker, W. B. Kimmons, Charles W. Perry, K. C. Denny, and W. E. Snow.

The request for a congregational meeting for the election of five additional deacons was renewed, and Mr. Coble assured the Board that this would be presented at the next Session meeting. The crowded conditions existing in the church and Sunday School were thoroughly discussed, and it was finally decided to remodel the old manse which adjoined the church, for Sunday School purposes so it could be used until more definite plans could be made. After further discussion, S. E. Tucker offered the following motion: "That this Board of Deacons go on record as favoring the selection and ultimate purchase of a suitable site for the erection of a new church; that the Chairman appoint two deacons from the Board as a Site Committee to work with any other committees appointed by other branches of the Church." The motion was unanimously carried. Chairman Johnson appointed Frank Wineskie and Charles W. Perry as a Site Committee to represent the Diaconate.

On December 14, 1925, the Session decided to call a congregational meeting Sunday morning, January 10, 1926, for the purpose of electing five additional deacons. Upon motion the Moderator was instructed to appoint two elders to act on a committee to consider the selection and ultimate purchase of a new church site; as the Board of Deacons had already named two members to such a Com-

mittee. A. E. Taplin and Dr. W. A. Hayes were appointed by Mr. Coble to represent the Session.

On December 20, 1925, I. Paul Ingle came before the Session and upon re-statement of his faith was received into the communion and fellowship of the Church.

A congregational meeting was held at the close of services Sunday morning, January 10, 1926. Five additional deacons were elected as follows: R. E. Snow, C. H. Marriner, T. J. Gold, Sr., W. A. Sides, and Lamar McCallum. All of these accepted the office and were duly ordained and installed at the morning service on January 24, 1926.

At a Deacons meeting on March 2, 1926, Deacon Frank Wineskie invited the Board of Deacons to meet jointly with the Session as his guests at a supper meeting to be held at the Sheraton Hotel on Tuesday evening, March 9, 1926. He stated that he felt that a joint meeting of the Boards would be very beneficial from the standpoint of discussing the future program of the Church, and laying some definite plans. The Board unanimously accepted Mr. Wineskie's thoughtful and kind invitation.

There had been no full time janitor for the Church up to this time, so the Board instructed Mr. Coble to hire a full time one and for the janitor to be under his direct charge and to take orders from no one else. Jim Neely, colored, was employed on March 15, 1926, and he served well in that position for several years.

On March 9, 1926, the Elders and Deacons gathered around the table in the private dining room at the Sheraton Hotel, with Frank Wineskie as genial host, and there definite plans began to take shape for the purchase of a new site and the erection of a new church. Mr. Wineskie enthusiastically told about the possibilities of securing a desirable site on North Main Street. He recommended the purchasing of it and the immediate erection of a new church building. After many enthusiastic speeches, favoring the undertaking, a joint recommendation from the Session and Board of Deacons to build the new Church was drawn up and adopted.

On March 28, 1926, following the regular morning services, a congregational meeting was held. The meeting was opened by prayer by Elder W. W. Smith and Deacon C. H. Marriner was elected to act as clerk. The Moderator, The Reverend Charles P. Coble, then stated the object of the meeting was "to consider the recommenda-

tion from a joint meeting of the Officers of the Church to purchase a new site, to erect a new Church building, and to sell the present church property on South Main and Green Streets." The Moderator then called upon Deacon Frank Wineskie to state the obvious needs for a new Church and Sunday School building, and to give the facts leading up to the proposal to be presented for consideration. Mr. Wineskie's remarks were brief and to the point. He stated that the committee, A. E. Taplin and Dr. W. A. Hayes from the Session, and Charles W. Perry and himself from the Board of Deacons, as a New Site Committee, had considered several lots, but had finally decided upon a magnificent one on the corner of North Main Street and Shirley Avenue and Hamilton Street. He stated that the lot was owned by Mr. J. Elwood Cox, and that the committee had recommended the purchase of same to a joint meeting of the Elders and Deacons, held on March 9, 1926, and that the joint meeting now recommended same to the congregation. Elder A. S. Caldwell, Jr., then read the following Resolutions: "Resolved by the Congregation of the First Presbyterian Church, High Point, North Carolina, at a congregational meeting duly called and held on March 28, 1926:

"First: That the congregation go on record as favoring the purchase of a new site for a new Church, the sale of our present Church property and the erection of a new Church.

"Second: That the proper officers of the Church be and are hereby authorized and instructed to purchase as a site for the new Church the lot now belonging to Mr. J. Elwood Cox, and located between North Main Street and Hamilton Street, on Shirley Avenue, in the City of High Point, North Carolina, at a price not to exceed \$75,000.00, on the best terms available.

"Third: That the proper officers of the Church be authorized and directed to sell the present Church property lying between South Main Street and South Wrenn Street, on Green Street, in the City of High Point, at such time and at such price as they deem for the best interest of the Church. The proceeds from said sale to be used solely on the purchase of the new lot and the erection of a new Church.

"Fourth: That the congregation at this meeting elect a Finance Committee, to be composed of six members, to handle the purchase of the new site, the sale of the present site, and the financing of the new Church; also a Building Committee composed of seven mem-

bers, to have charge of architecture, construction and erection of the new Church; these committees to elect their own chairman and secretaries."

The above resolutions were unanimously carried by a rising vote of the congregation. In accordance with the above resolution, the following members were elected as a Finance Committee: A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Frank Wineskie, C. C. Garrett, C. H. Marriner, S. E. Tucker, and Dr. W. A. Hayes. The following were elected the Building Committee in accordance with the resolution: A. E. Taplin, F. Logan Porter, Sr., Charles W. Perry, W. E. Snow, Carter Dalton, Mrs. K. C. Denny, and Mrs. T. Wingate Andrews. On motion of Frank Wineskie, the congregation also voted that in addition to the above named committees, an additional committee of five ladies be named to have charge of the furnishing of the new Church and Sunday School building. The following were elected to compose this Committee: Mrs. W. A. Hayes, Mrs. G. W. Denny, Mrs. Lamar McCallum, Mrs. F. Logan Porter, and Miss Violet Johnson.

On April 6, 1926, the Session met in the Pastor's Study and received reports from the Sunday School, Men's Work, Woman's Auxiliary, Young People's Work, and after reviewing same, elected Sunday School Officers for the new year as follows: Superintendent, F. Logan Porter, Sr., Assistant Superintendent, Charles W. Perry; Superintendent of Primary and Beginners Department, Mrs. Carter Dalton; Superintendent of Cradle Roll Department, Miss Idelia Hayes; Secretary, Dr. W. A. Hayes; Treasurer, W. E. Herndon. A complete re-election of the last year's officers.

Report for the Church year ending March 31, 1926, to Presbytery was approved and some of the pertinent facts and figures are as follows: Elders ten; Deacons fifteen; added to the Church roll ninety-two; total membership four hundred and sixty-eight; Sunday School enrollment three hundred and nineteen; total contributions \$18,703.00. (Benevolences, \$6,462.00—Building Fund, \$1,800.00—Current Expense, \$6,841.00—Pastor's Salary, \$3,600.00.)

The Session was greatly pleased with the work of the Church as reports showed that all departments of the Church's work had accomplished much during the year and the membership had increased from 395 to 468, or a gain of 73 members during the year.

It was an encouraged and enthusiastic membership that faced the future with high hopes for great accomplishments during the

church year, 1926-1927. A new site would be bought and a new Church building would at least be started and under the able leadership of the beloved Pastor, the congregation was pulling together in a wonderful way. With God's help this Church was becoming a power for good in the community.

The Board of Deacons met on April 6, 1926, and elected officers for the new church year, re-electing those who had served the previous year. Pastor Coble brought to the attention of the Board the fact that the budget for the new year had made provisions for a Church Secretary to help carry on the work. He wanted to know if the pledges for the new church year justified his going ahead and employing a helper. After some discussion it was unanimously decided that he should go ahead and secure the services of a helper at once.

The details in connection with the church work had grown immensely for the past several years and the Pastor had been loaded down with all this work; so in accordance with the instructions of the Session and the Board of Deacons Mr. Coble secured the services of Mrs. Nan Booth of McColl, South Carolina, a trained young lady in Sunday School work, and Young Peoples work, and also Secretarial work, to assist him in carrying forward the activities of the Church. She assumed her duties May 1, 1926, at a monthly salary of \$125. Mrs. Booth filled this place about one year and then resigned. Miss Aleen Tomlinson, a member of the Church was then employed and she served as Secretary to Mr. Coble for about one year.

Interest in the church work was keen, and almost every Sunday additions to the membership were made by letter or on profession of faith. The various committees elected by the congregation in connection with building a new Church were functioning and the spring and summer slipped by almost before the membership realized it.

On September 21, 1926, the Board of Deacons decided to divide up the membership into lists, giving each Deacon a certain number of members. These lists were to show the amount pledged by each member for the year, the amount paid, and the address, so that the deacons could confine their work in an organized but individual effort. It was thought that this system would constantly put some officer of the Church in contact with the members. The Deacons were to not only collect amounts due on pledges, but were to look after the sick and to form definite contacts from month to month with

the members on their lists. It was suggested at this meeting that this plan might be developed to the point of having an Elder and Deacon on each list and that regular visitations be made to all members by these officers every quarter.

The Session decided on November 18, 1926, that beginning with January, 1927, monthly meetings would be held on the second Monday evening of each month, and that during the year these monthly meetings should be held in the homes of the Elders; each taking turn as host to the Session, by entertaining and serving a dinner.

At a meeting on February 14, 1927, the Session elected a special Committee to make plans for the laying of the Corner Stone of the new Church. The Committee selected was as follows: Pastor Coble, Elder Denny, and Elder Taplin.

The Session met on April 11, 1927, and the work of the Sunday School for the past year was reviewed and officers for the new year were elected. All officers for the past year were re-elected. Reports from the various organizations in the Church, were received, after which the statistical report to Orange Presbytery was made out.

Some important facts from the Statistical Report covering the year closing March 31, 1927, are as follows: Elders ten; Deacons, fifteen; added to Church roll twenty-five; total membership four hundred and seventy; Sunday school enrollment three hundred and ninety-five; total contributions \$15,774.00. (Benevolences, \$6,774.00—Building Fund, \$1,903.00—Current Expense, \$3,497.00—Pastor's Salary, \$3,600.00.)

By Sunday, April 10, 1927, the plans for the laying of the Corner Stone of the new Church were completed, and fitting exercises were held on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Following the opening music and scripture reading, the Apostles' Creed was recited, and an address on the history of this Church was delivered by Elder Carter Dalton, grandson of the founder of the Church. Elder F. Logan Porter, Sr., then presented the Corner Stone on behalf of the Building Committee, and it was accepted formally by G. W. Denny, the senior Elder of the congregation, on behalf of the membership. Elder W. A. Hayes and Deacon Frank Wineskie representing the officers of the Church, then placed in the Corner Stone various articles. After this rite, the actual laying of the stone and the pointing up was done by the builders. Following this the Reverend Charles P. Coble led in a dedicatory prayer and the gathering then sang, "An Earthly



"Temple Here We Raise," and the assembly was then dismissed with the pastoral benediction.

The Church and Sunday School building was already well under way and prospects looked fair for the structure to be fully completed and ready for use by mid-winter or early spring. Under the strain of the heavy work of a growing church, and the extra work that developed in connection with the new Church, Mr. Coble had over worked and his health was not so good. The Session on June 13, 1927, ordered that he take a rest for two months and that services be held in the Church only two Sundays each month and that a supply be obtained to preach at these services.

On June 13, 1927, Mr. and Mrs. F. F. Dickson were received into the communion of this Church by letter from Ashwood Presbyterian Church, Council, North Carolina.

The Session decided to call a congregational meeting for Sunday morning, September 25, 1927, for the purpose of the congregation authorizing the Trustees to deed to the City of High Point certain land to widen North Main Street. This congregational meeting was held and the authority was given by the Church to deed the property to the city as suggested and recommended by the Building Committee.

Elder H. B. Hyde had been feeble and declining in health for some months. He passed away on September 11, 1927, and on September 26, 1927, the Session appointed a committee composed of Pastor Coble, Elder Denny, and Elder Hayes to draw up resolutions of respect.

On December 5, 1927, the Session appointed a committee of three Elders, consisting of Dr. W. A. Hayes, Carter Dalton, and A. E. Taplin, to attend to moving of memorial plates from the old Church and to investigate the matter of Memorial windows in the new Church. At this same Session meeting the question of a vested choir was brought up and it was decided that a vested junior choir might be decided upon, but the whole matter in regard to vestments was put in the hands of a Committee consisting of F. Logan Porter, Sr., Carter Dalton, and Dr. W. A. Hayes.

On February 20, 1928, Mr. Coble informed the Session that he had been able to secure the services of Dr. Neal Anderson for a series of Evangelistic meetings, to begin on March 18. Work on the new Church had progressed slower than had been expected, and as the new pews had not been satisfactory and the Building Committee had rejected them, it was decided to defer definite plans about this meeting until later. At this meeting the Session went on record as favoring a Pastor's assistant or Church manager to help Mr. Coble with the Church work. At the Board of Deacons meeting on February 14, 1928, the Board went on record as approving the hiring of a young man to assist Mr. Coble.

On March 18, 1928, Z. I. Walser and family were received into the communion of this Church by letter from the First Presbyterian Church, Lexington, North Carolina.

The work at the new Church had reached the point where definite plans could be made about formally opening it; so it was with considerable enthusiasm that the Pastor, Officers, and various Committees pushed plans and struggled to get everything in readiness for the opening there on Sunday, April 1, 1928. Everything was ready on that date.

On that morning *The High Point Enterprise* carried a whole section in its paper, dedicated to the opening exercises of the Church, giving in detail the program for all of its services, and also carrying a short history of the Church, and several pictures of the new building.

It was a great day for the High Point Presbyterian Church. For many years the congregation had dreamed of just such a church building in which to worship their Maker, and now by the help of Almighty God this dream had come true.

On this particular morning Sunday School met in the individual class rooms, and in the new departmental assembly rooms, and the eleven o'clock morning service was held in the spacious sanctuary. To this service more came than could be accommodated, and many were turned away. For his sermon The Reverend Coble took as his text: *The Beauty of the Lord*.

At the time of its completion, the new church home of the High Point Presbyterians, was considered one of the most beautiful church buildings in this section of the State. The nineteenth annual meeting of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, in the Division of Ecclesiastical work, made the honor award to this Church.

The Session met in the Pastor's study at the new Church at 7:30 P. M., on April 16, 1928, to receive reports from all organizations in the Church and to make out a yearly report to Orange Presbytery. The work of the Sunday School was reviewed and the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Superintendent, F. Logan Porter, Sr.; Assistant Superintendent, Charles W. Perry; Secretary and Treasurer, W. E. Herndon; Assistant Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. W. A. Hayes; Superintendent of Beginners Department, Mrs. A. E. Taplin; Superintendent of Primary Department, Mrs. Carter Dalton; Superintendent of Junior Department, Mrs. W. A. Hayes; Superintendent of Intermediate and Senior Department, Mrs. E. M. Shipman. Reports from the Woman's Auxiliary, Men's Work, and Young Peoples Work, were received and thoroughly discussed, with much praise to the Woman's Auxiliary for the splendid work done.

The Statistical Report was then made out to go to Orange Presbytery, covering the year's work ending March 31, 1928. A few of the interesting facts are as follows: Elders, nine; Deacons, fifteen; added to Church roll, fifty-eight; total membership, four hundred and seventy-five; Sunday School enrollment, four hundred and fifty;

total contributions, \$26,458.00. (Benevolences, \$7,225.00—Building Fund, \$10,390.00—Current Expense, \$5,243.00—Pastor's Salary, \$3,600.00.)

The fact that the first services were held in the new Church building on April 1, 1928, enabled the work of the church year of 1928-1929, to start with the change already made and the work for the new year to go forward with a full year in the new church home. At a meeting of the Session on April 23, 1928, a special committee consisting of Elder W. W. Smith, Elder Carter Dalton, and Mr. Fred J. Bartlett, was appointed to investigate the securing of a mission church in the northern part of the city. This Committee was instructed to report back to the Session its recommendations. At this same meeting it was moved and carried that the church choir be vested.

At the request of the Finance Committee, a congregational meeting was held on Sunday, May 27, 1928, for the purpose of hearing a report of the Finance Committee and to act on a permanent financing plan. The plan was unanimously approved and the details of it are covered in the activities of the Finance Committee. Another congregational meeting was held on Sunday, August 5, 1928, for the purpose of acting upon a recommendation of the Finance Committee in regard to the financing of the manse, and the lot on South Main Street. The congregation acted favorably on the plan, and granted the authority. Details of this are explained under the activities of the Finance Committee.

The first wedding ceremony performed in the beautiful new church was that of Miss Lettie Smith and Mr. Charles R. Barrier, on August 18, 1928.

At a Session meeting September 17, 1928, it was decided to invite all the former living pastors back to preach one Sunday each in the new Church. The Reverend A. S. Caldwell was the first one invited and he came and filled the pulpit October 8, 1928. The Reverend E. L. Siler accepted the invitation and filled the pulpit Sunday, October 28, 1928.

A congregational meeting was held on Sunday morning, November 11, 1928, after the regular morning service and three additional elders and four additional deacons were elected as follows: Elders, E. C. Holden, Z. I. Walser, and Eli Light; Deacons, W. H. Currie, I. Paul Ingle, Fred J. Bartlett, and John A. Holmes. All of these newly elected officers accepted the office to which they were

elected, and they were ordained and installed on Sunday, November 25, 1928.

At a Session meeting on December 31, 1928, Mr. Coble made a statement that he did not feel able on account of the condition of his health to continue the work of the pastorate, and that sometime within the ensuing year he would resign. The new Church with the expanded program naturally put more work on the Pastor. The officers had planned to employ an assistant to help carry a portion of the work, but the church debt was heavy and in the struggle to meet the burdensome building debt, the Session and Diaconate had not provided the help for Mr. Coble, that was sorely needed, and which with every good intention had been promised by both Boards.

For several years Committees from the Board of Deacons had looked after the church music, but conditions had arisen which caused the Diaconate to request the Session on January 16, 1929, to assume the duty of looking after the choir and all the music, beginning Sunday, January 20, 1929. The Session agreed to this and asked that \$2400 be put in the budget for music. Elder Hayes was appointed to look after the music on behalf of the Session.

Following up the plan of inviting former pastors to honor the Church by coming back and preaching at the new Church, the Session on April 10, 1929, decided to invite The Reverend W. P. McCorkle to preach on Sunday, April 28, 1929. That date being the fortieth anniversary of his becoming pastor of the Church. He accepted and preached at both services on that date.

The Session met on April 10, 1929, and reviewed the work of the year and received reports from the Woman's Auxiliary, Young People's Council, and Men's Club. Annual election of Sunday School officers was deferred, but the yearly report to Presbytery was made out and approved.

Some figures and facts from the report covering the year ending March 31, 1929, are as follows: Elders, twelve; Deacons, eighteen; added to Church roll, sixty-four; total membership, five hundred and fifteen; Sunday school enrollment, five hundred and fifty; total contributions, \$26,089.00. (Benevolences, \$6,849.00—Building Fund, \$9,294.00—Current Expense, \$6,346.00—Pastor's salary, \$3,600.00.)

As the report shows the Church was growing and the close of the first year at the new Church found all departments of the Church

functioning in a fine way. The membership showed a gain of forty during the year and all obligations had been met and liberal amounts contributed to the Church causes.

At a Session meeting held prior to the morning service, on Sunday, September 22, 1929, Mr. Coble advised that he would announce his resignation to the congregation as Pastor, at the morning service, and asked the Session to call a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 29, 1929, to act upon his resignation. Mr. Coble had literally worn himself out in the service of this church. The officers knew he was terribly over-worked, but had been dilatory about furnishing more help. The congregation as a whole did not realize this, but Mr. Coble knew he could no longer carry the work as it should be done, so he made the decision to resign, after much prayerful thought.

Pastor Coble's resignation was tendered to the congregation and on September 29, 1929, it was reluctantly accepted. Mr. Coble agreed to continue to fill the pulpit through January, 1930, which would, he felt, give ample time for the Church to find and call a new pastor. On October 6, 1929, the Session appointed a Special Committee to serve as a Pulpit Committee, and this Committee was charged with the responsibility of securing a new pastor for nomination to the congregation. The Committee was: Elder G. W. Denny, Chairman, Deacon Lamar McCallum, and Mrs. W. A. Hayes.

Almost seventeen years had passed since Mr. Coble had preached his first sermon as pastor of this church. Under his leadership the church had grown from one hundred and thirty-eight members, to six hundred and twenty-eight—from a small church to one of the leading churches in the city. High Point had grown from a town of 12,225 to a city of 36,745. The last three years of his ministry here had been trying ones, because the congregation had undertaken a mammoth program of expansion. A new Church and Sunday School building had been built, and a heavy building debt had fallen on the congregation at a time when the Nation was being thrown into a serious financial depression. Mr. Coble had worked and worried until he was thin and worn, tired out, and must have lighter work, at least for a time. These were the conditions, so one does not wonder that Mr. Coble saw fit to resign, so that he could rest for a few months, then he accepted the call of the First Presbyterian Church, Douglas, Georgia, and became its Pastor. In studying the history of the First Presbyterian Church, High Point, N. C., one can not help but see that the seventeen years of The Reverend Charles P. Coble's

pastorate stands out as the period of growth and expansion of this Church.

During the pastorate of Mr. Coble, seven hundred and thirteen members joined the church. Four hundred and sixty-four by letter, two hundred and thirty-seven upon profession of faith and baptism, and twelve upon re-statement of faith.

On February 2, 1930, the Session elected Elder G. W. Denny, as its Moderator, to serve until a new pastor was secured. Also a Committee of three Elders was appointed to look after, and to arrange or conduct prayer meeting services.

The Session met and prepared the Statistical Report to Presbytery showing the condition of the Church at the close of the Church year ending March 31, 1930. Some of the facts and figures from the Report are listed here. They are as follows: Elders, twelve; Deacons, nineteen; added to the Church roll, thirty; total membership, six hundred and twenty-eight; Sunday School enrollment, four hundred and seventy-one; total contributions, \$46,880.00. (Benevolences, \$6,367.00; Building Fund Contributions, \$26,886.00; Pastor's Salary, \$3,600.00; Current Expenses, \$10,027.00).

During the pastorate of The Reverend Charles P. Coble the new Church on the corner of North Main Street and Shirley Avenue was built. The congregation elected three Special Committees and charged them with full responsibility to handle all details of building, furnishing, and financing. These Special Committees were: building, furnishing, and financing, and a record of their activities follows.

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE

On Thursday, April 8, 1926, the newly elected Building Committee met at the Hut for the purpose of organization. The members of the Committee were: A. E. Taplin, F. Logan Porter, Charles W. Perry, Carter Dalton, W. E. Snow, Mrs. K. C. Denny, Mrs. T. Wingate Andrews. All the members were present and also Pastor Coble. A. E. Taplin was elected Chairman and Charles W. Perry Secretary. A. E. Taplin, Charles W. Perry and W. E. Snow were selected as a committee to interview all of the architects available and to make a recommendation to the entire committee. It was decided that subject to the approval of the Finance Committee, plans would be started with \$150,000 as the amount which might be expended in the construction of the new building. The Building Committee met again on May 12, 1926, at the Hut with all members of the

committee present, and also Pastor Coble. After considerable discussion Logan Porter offered the following resolution:

"Whereas, the First Presbyterian Church, High Point, North Carolina is about to enter into a building program for the erection of a new Church and Sunday School building, it is deemed wise and necessary to secure the services of some local architect and also the services of some nationally known architect for consulting purposes, And:

"Whereas, Mr. Harry Barton an architect of Greensboro, North Carolina, and Mr. Hobart Upjohn of New York City, are connected as joint architects in the planning and supervision of the erection of the new First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, North Carolina, and that Mr. Harry Barton is the architect for the new city high school building, with an office here in High Point for possibly the next two years with a regular inspector here who could also handle the inspection of the erection of our new Church and Sunday School building, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Building Committee of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, employ Mr. Harry Barton of Greensboro, North Carolina, as the local architect to draw plans and supervise the building of the new Church and Sunday School; and that Mr. Hobart Upjohn of New York City, be employed as consulting architect." This resolution was adopted unanimously and A. E. Taplin and Carter Dalton were authorized to make the best possible arrangement with these gentlemen. On Friday afternoon, May 14, 1926, a contract was made with Mr. Barton and Mr. Upjohn, the Church agreeing to pay 6% on the cost of the new building for the plans and supervision.

The Building Committee met Saturday night, May 15, 1926, at the Hut with all members of the committee present except Carter Dalton. Mr. Coble the Pastor, and Mr. Harry Barton and Mr. Hobart Upjohn, the architects were present. This meeting was for the purpose of deciding about the type of building, seating capacity requirements, and the size of the Sunday School building. The architects were both of the opinion that it would be impossible to build a Gothic Church and Sunday School building to seat six hundred in the auditorium, and to care for a Sunday School of six hundred at a cost of \$150,000 as suggested, but the committee was unanimous in wanting a church and Sunday School building of Gothic type; so the architects were instructed to get busy and work up something and notify the committee when they were ready to be heard again.

On June 18, 1926, Mr. Barton and Mr. Upjohn met with sev-

eral members of the committee in the afternoon at the new Church site and discussed the location of the proposed building. On June 19, 1926, the committee met with all members present, also the two architects and Mr. Coble. Drawings of the proposed new Church and Sunday School building were presented and explained by both Mr. Barton and Mr. Upjohn. After several suggestions were made by the committee members, it was explained by the architects that the proposed plans would seat four hundred and fifty in the main church auditorium, with one hundred and fifty in the balcony, making a total of six hundred capacity, with a Sunday School plant that would care for a departmental Sunday School of slightly over six hundred, but that according to their estimate the proposed building—Gothic architecture, stone and steel construction, lime stone trim, and slate roof, would cost in the neighborhood of \$190,000. This was considerably more than the committee had in mind, so it was decided to call in the members of the Finance Committee, so that the members of that committee might see the drawings and plans and also hear the report of the architects as to the estimated costs. After considerable discussion the joint meeting of the Finance Committee and the Building Committee instructed the architects to make certain changes in the drawings and then to carefully re-figure the cost, and when this was done to advise and another joint meeting would be held to consider further.

On June 26, 1926, a joint meeting of the Building and Finance Committees was held with members present as follows:

Building Committee: A. E. Taplin, Chairman, Charles W. Perry, Secretary, F. Logan Porter, Carter Dalton, W. E. Snow, Mrs. K. C. Denny, and Mrs. T. Wingate Andrews. *Finance Committee:* A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Chairman, C. H. Marriner, Treasurer, Frank Wineskie, S. E. Tucker, C. C. Garrett, Dr. W. A. Hayes. Pastor Coble and Architect Harry Barton were also present. The sketches and drawings of the proposed new Church and Sunday School were presented and after a few minor changes were agreed upon, the plans were approved by the joint Committee Meeting. Mr. Barton was instructed to proceed to have blue-prints and all necessary drawings and details done so that bids could be secured, and that with actual bids in, if it was finally found that the costs were too great for the Church to undertake, that the plans would be paid for by the Church and some other type of architecture would be decided upon then.

The plans were ready by September 20, 1926, and after the

Committee looked them over, it instructed Mr. Barton to go ahead and advertise for bids to be opened on November 10, 1926.

The Building Committee met at the Church Hut on Tuesday, November 10, 1926, at 3:00 o'clock P. M. The meeting was called for the purpose of receiving and opening of the bids on the new Church and Sunday School building. Eleven firms bid on the general contract and seven firms bid on the heating contract. The bids on the general contract ran from \$156,250 to \$184,257 and on the heating system from \$8,485 to \$10,177. After a joint meeting of the Building Committee and Finance Committee in the Directors Room at the Commercial Club at 7:30 o'clock P. M., on this same date, it was decided that the bids were better than some had expected, even better than Mr. Barton had hoped for, and that perhaps the Church should go ahead and let the contracts to the lowest bidders. The Finance Committee finally decided, however, that it wanted to take this matter under advisement for a few days before definitely deciding to take the responsibility of financing such a big undertaking.

On November 15, 1926, another meeting was held and it was decided that both Committees would approve the letting of the contracts to the lowest bidders. A. E. Taplin and Carter Dalton were instructed to act for the Committees, and to complete the letting by awarding the general contract to R. K. Stewart & Son of High Point, North Carolina, for \$156,250 and the heating contract to W. W. Dick, of Greensboro, North Carolina, for \$8,485. The architect, Mr. Harry Barton drew up the contracts, and they were officially signed on November 16, 1926. On this same date the Building Committee members went with Mr. Barton to the new Church site and the location of the building was definitely fixed.

On Thanksgiving Day, November 25, 1926, the steam shovel dug the first dirt in the construction of the proposed new Church and Sunday School building. At the time plans were being considered as to the needs of the various organizations in the Church, it was intended to construct on the back of the lot a hut or separate building for the two Boy Scout Troops, but it was brought to the attention of the Committee that with some additional excavation a splendid Boy Scout room and quarters could be put under the southeast corner of the Sunday School part of the building. After giving this matter considerable thought the Committee on January 21, 1927, with all members present, decided to have the extra space excavated and the Scout room added, at a cost of \$2,009.13 general contract, and \$276.00 heating contract. At this same meeting the

Committee discussed at some length a matter about setting back the fence and rounding the corner at North Main Street and Shirley Avenue, so that the walls and sidewalk would be back on the line that had been definitely established by the City Planning and Zoning Commission, for widening of North Main Street in future development. It was decided that if the City would stand the cost of widening the paved street, that the Church would give the land approximately twenty feet along the property line on North Main Street, and also sufficient land to round the corner at Shirley Avenue. The Chairman of the Committee, A. E. Taplin, advised that he would personally give the side walk if the committee could get the City to agree to the plans as outlined. Charles W. Perry and W. E. Snow were made a Special Committee to confer with the City Council and try to carry to conclusion the plan. The City Council willingly agreed to the plans as outlined and this was carried to conclusion, which would give splendid parking space for the Church, and at some future time when the City widens North Main Street this work will have been done and the property along the front will not have to be upset or changed.

The Building Committee had been quietly informed that under certain conditions Mrs. E. A. Snow, might consider giving a new pipe organ, as a Memorial to her husband, the late E. A. Snow. The Special Committee that had been appointed as a New Pipe Organ Committee, through its Chairman, Fred J. Bartlett, made a report to a congregational meeting Sunday morning, April 3, 1927. He advised that Mrs. E. A. Snow had graciously offered to give a three manual Skinner pipe organ to the Church as a Memorial, to her husband, the the late Ernest Ansel Snow. The only conditions being that she, through her personal representatives be allowed to select the pipe organ, and that she be allowed to trade in the old pipe organ. After receiving the report from the Committee, the following resolutions were offered and unanimously passed by a rising vote:

"The members of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, in a congregational meeting, this 3rd day of April, 1927, having heard the offer of Mrs. E. A. Snow to give to this Church a new three manual Skinner pipe organ, as a Memorial to her late husband, Ernest Ansel Snow, to be installed in the new Church now being erected, desires:

FIRST: To extend to Mrs. Snow our acceptance of her most generous gift, and to express our grateful thanks for the magnificent organ.

SECOND: We recognize in this gift another proof of Mrs. Snow's unfailing loyalty and devotion to this Church, and to our Lord Jesus Christ, which she has constantly manifested through her many years of service here.

THIRD: We would also express our great satisfaction that this new organ is to be given as a Memorial to one of the most faithful and devoted, and generous members this Church has ever had, and we recognize in this, a fitting and worthy tribute to a worthy man. For about thirty years he served as an Elder, almost as long as Superintendent of the Sunday School, as Teacher, as Clerk of the Session for many years, and through his service and means contributed more perhaps than any other one ever has to the up-building of this Church. Fitting also is this Memorial, because of his love for music and his service in the choir.

FOURTH: For Mrs. Snow's generosity and devotion to the interests of this Church, for the worthiness of the memory it will perpetuate, and for the service the organ will render to this Church, we hereby extend to Mrs. E. A. Snow our sincere thanks and pray God's richest blessing to rest upon her."

At a meeting of the Building Committee on June 23, 1927, Mr. A. W. Klemme of the High Point Glass Decorative Company, High Point, North Carolina, displayed two windows of the type that he would recommend for use in the main Church auditorium. After considerable discussion, and with the approval of the architect, Mr. Harry Barton, the committee let the contract for all the art glass windows as specified by the architect and as covered by the drawings to the High Point Glass Decorative Company for \$3,500. At this same meeting the Building Committee voted to have an entrance on each side of the front steps of the Church to the basement room instead of one as had been specified in the original plans. The cost of this change to be \$340.

The Building Committee met on September 15, 1927, for the purpose of deciding on the interior finish of the Church and Sunday School. After considerable discussion and with the approval of the architects the interior finish of light natural oak with a greenish brown cast was adopted as the finish for the interior woodwork. The finish of the walls and ceiling were left to the architects. At this meeting previous offers that had been made were definitely accepted with many thanks. K. C. Denny had agreed to donate the walnut panels, and Lamar McCallum, the walnut lumber for the interior

trim for paneling the Pastor's Study. S. E. Tucker had agreed to furnish mahogany panels for paneling the Gleaners' Class Room. Charles W. Perry had agreed to furnish quartered figured red gum panels, for the Ladies' Parlor. The committee ordered the changes made in the three rooms as made possible by the generous gifts of these gentlemen.

On October 7, 1927, the Building Committee met at the Hut at 10 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of opening bids for the Church pews and choir seats, and to consider various designs, and types, and to open bids on lighting fixtures, and to see samples and if possible to let contracts for all these items. Representatives of four seating firms were present with samples and bids, and five lighting fixture firms. After all the representatives present were heard and the bids received from them, considerable discussion took place over an offer of Mr. S. L. Davis, Manager of the Southern Chair Company of High Point, North Carolina. Mr. Davis advised that the Southern Chair Company would willingly give all its commission as a donation to the Church if the order was placed with them as representative of the E. H. Stafford Manufacturing Company of 367 Adams Street, Chicago, Illinois. This offer was seriously considered, as it looked like it might save the Church at least \$1,200 on the pews and choir seats. Mr. Davis was instructed to get samples made up of a type desired by the Committee. It was decided to defer the letting of the contract for pews and choir chairs until he could get together full information as to costs and submit samples.

After hearing all the representatives present on lighting fixtures, the Committee finally gave Mr. F. C. Hendershot, representative of the Baerdslee Chandelier Company, 216 South Jefferson Street, Chicago, Illinois, an order for the lighting fixtures. These would be supplied the Church through Mr. F. J. Bartlett, and the Industrial Electric & Machine Company, High Point, North Carolina, at dealers price, as Fred Bartlett had offered to give this service to the Church, thereby bringing about a saving of at least \$1,400. The Committee went on record as unanimously thanking Mr. Bartlett for his generosity and help in enabling the committee and Church in buying the lighting fixtures at such a low figure. The type decided upon was Swedish wrought iron, and all the fixtures were to be designed special and planned to harmonize with Gothic architecture. The contract price to the Church being \$4,675.

The Building Committee met at the Hut Monday evening on October 17, 1927, with all members of the committee present, also

Mr. Coble and Mr. S. L. Davis, to consider further the letting of the contract for pews and choir seats. After considerable discussion the contract was finally let, to the E. H. Stafford Manufacturing Company, through their local representative, The Southern Chair Company, at a price not to exceed \$4,000, and Mr. Davis was accorded the thanks of the committee for his generosity in supplying the equipment to the Church at factory prices. At this same meeting the Chairman brought before the Committee a plan to sell the old wall and iron fence that was around the front of the lot when it was bought from Mr. J. Elwood Cox. His plan was to replace same with a stone wall, using the same kind of stone that was being used in the Church building, with a limestone V-shaped cap on the top of the wall and posts. The wall, he stated would be approximately thirty inches high, with proper entrances and posts. Because of the fact that the old brick wall and iron fence would have to be moved back to allow for the widening of the street and rounding of the corner, and the further fact that the old iron fence could be sold at \$1,000 and the old brick could be removed and sold for \$150, Chairman Taplin felt that with a bid of \$2,000 for the construction of the new wall, that the committee ought to consider making this change. After some discussion it was unanimously decided to let the contract for the new wall which would go all along the front on North Main Street and around the corner to a point in line with Johnson Street on Shirley Avenue. R. D. Tillson, a member of the Church, and a Landscape Architect, drew the plans and furnished blue-prints, without costs to the Church, showing the location of the new wall and the entrances with the entrance walks and location of shrubbery.

The Building Committee met at the new Church auditorium on March 8, 1928, for the purpose of inspecting the pews and choir seats that the E. H. Stafford Manufacturing Company, had furnished on contract order that the Committee had given Mr. Davis of the Southern Chair Company. The equipment was not nearly up to the standard that had been promised; so Mr. Davis agreed to order some replacement parts and to have a man come here from the factory to install the new parts and to put the pews in the best condition possible. The Committee members were sorely disappointed in this equipment and as April 1, had been set as the day for the opening exercises of the new building, little time was left to get the matter adjusted. Mr. Davis promised to wire and to do all he could to get the pews ready by the opening date. The pews were not in shape on the opening date, but were temporarily put up so that they could

be used. On May 31, 1928, at the request of Mr. S. L. Davis the committee met at the new Church, where he explained that everything possible had been done to put the pews in proper shape. The Committee members made an inspection and after considerable discussion informed Mr. Davis that it would be compelled to reject the pews, as they were not up to the quality that had been promised when the order was placed.

After the new stone wall had been completed along the front and north side of the grounds, entrance walks were laid of a concrete base and with slate flagging surface. Then the lawn was properly graded and grass planted. Shrubbery was also bought for planting around the Church and Sunday School building, and at other locations as specified by the drawing of the Landscape Architect, Mr. Tillson. The lawn improvements cost approximately \$3,500.

The final meeting of the Building Committee as shown by recorded minutes was held October 22, 1930, in the directors room at the Commercial National Bank, with five members of the Committee, C. H. Marriner, Treasurer of the Finance Committee, and Mr. S. L. Davis present. Numerous meetings and conferences had been held according to records in connection with the contract entered into with Mr. Davis as representative of the E. H. Stafford Manufacturing Company, for church pews. The pews having been rejected by the committee as not being up to the quality promised when the order was placed, and the company had failed to replace or correct reported defects, so at the suggestion of Mr. Davis, the committee agreed to accept the pews as they were, and to pay \$2,000 as full and complete settlement.

The Building Committee had finally finished the work assigned to it by the congregation at the March 28, 1926, congregational meeting. The committee had worked for several years, very intensely for over two years, there had been much to do, and many trials had to be overcome, and many important decisions had been made. The committee had worked in absolute harmony, and at the close of the work, its members looked with glowing pride at the beautiful edifice that had been constructed for the glory of Almighty God, and for the use of the congregation. The structure was so substan-

tially built, that it would serve many generations yet to come. Special mention should be made here of the recorded evidence of the great amount of personal time given to the Building Committee work, by Chairman A. E. Taplin and Secretary Charles W. Perry. All of the Committee members gave willingly of their time in this great service of their Church, but A. E. Taplin deserves the greatest praise for his untiring and devoted service.

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE FURNISHING COMMITTEE

THE COMMITTEE

Mrs. W. A. Hayes

Mrs. F. Logan Porter, Sr.

Mrs. G. W. Denny

Miss Violet Johnson

Mrs. Lamar McCallum

After their election at the congregational meeting on March 28, 1926, the committee met and elected Mrs. W. A. Hayes as Chairman. At this meeting some plans were made, but definite work could not be started until the Building Committee had decided upon all the details about the size and type of the Church and Sunday School building, that would be constructed. After the plans had been furnished to the Building Committee by the architect, and construction was well under way, the Committee secured a copy of the plans and immediately began to study the needs as to furnishings and equipment for the departmental Sunday School, and also to plan about a carpet for the main Church auditorium. This Committee selected and purchased all of the chairs, pianos, tables and desks in the Sunday School department, that had to be secured. It supervised the adaptation of all the equipment that could be used from the old Church, Sunday School, and Hut, and had it properly finished to correspond to the finish of the new equipment and the woodwork in the new Sunday School building. Most of the additional chairs, tables and equipment that had to be bought, were purchased from the Southern Chair Company, High Point, North Carolina. This company also refinished according to the instructions of the Committee, the old equipment that was utilized from the old Church and Sunday School. All the furnishings for the Ladies' Parlor were selected and secured by this committee.

SUMMARY OF COSTS—SITE—BUILDING—FURNISHINGS

New Church—Corner North Main Street and Shirley Avenue

New Site—Purchase Price \$ 75,000.00

Building Costs

Original General Contract	\$156,250.00
Additions and Changes	6,482.37
Heating System Contract \$8,485.00	
Additions 276.00	8,761.00
Art Glass Windows—Contract	3,500.00
Lighting Fixtures—Contract	4,675.00
Extra wiring for pipe organ, etc.	330.27
Pews and Choir Seats—Contract	2,232.15
Architect's Fees	10,787.89

 \$193,018.68
Furnishings

Carpet—Church Auditorium	1,860.41
Pianos—Sunday School Depts.	1,185.00
Chairs, Tables and Misc. items	3,438.07

 6,483.48
Grounds Development Costs

Stone Wall front and North side	2,000.00
Entrance Walks, Etc.	2,014.74
Grading Lawn	415.60
Shrubbery and Planting	1,385.00

 5,815.34

 Total Initial Cost New Church \$280,317.50

In addition to the above expenditures, gifts were made to the Church, which must be remembered in arriving at the investment value of the Church Plant.

Pipe Organ—Three Manual Skinner with Chimes and Echo.
(Donated by Mrs. E. A. Snow)

Electric Wiring—Throughout Church and Sunday School (Donated by Fred J. Bartlett)

Desks and Chairs—Pastor's Study (Donated by Myrtle Desk Company)

Large Silver Flower Basket (Donated by Mrs. J. Ed Kirkman)

Mahogany Paneling—Gleaners Room (Donated by S. E. Tucker)

Figured Quartered Red Gum Paneling—Ladies' Parlor (Donated by Charles W. Perry)

Walnut Paneling—Pastor's Study (Donated by K. C. Denny)

Walnut Lumber for Trim work—Pastor's Study (Donated by Lamar McCallum)

Pulpit Bible (Donated by Miss Kate Clark).

Equipment such as pianos, chairs, benches, tables and many other items were brought to the new Church from the old, and the estimated value of this equipment, completes the investment value.....\$ 3,500.00

Total value of new Church plant including all costs and gifts—slightly over.....\$310,000.00

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

The Finance Committee elected at the congregational meeting on March 28, 1926, composed of A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Frank Wineskie, C. C. Garrett, S. E. Tucker, Dr. W. A. Hayes, and C. H. Marriner, met on March 30, 1926, in the Directors Room at the Commercial National Bank and elected A. S. Caldwell, Jr., as Chairman and C. H. Marriner as Treasurer. At this meeting the Committee completed the arrangements with Mr. J. Elwood Cox, and purchased the new church site on the corner of North Main Street and Shirley Avenue. It was decided by this Committee to secure subscriptions from members of the congregation for amounts that each member would give during the next ten years toward defraying the expense of purchasing the new church site, and the cost of erecting a church building thereon. Payments to be made on these pledges by the subscribers on a quarterly basis. These plans were fully developed at a meeting of the Men's Club, at the Church Hut on April 20, 1926. The campaign for subscriptions with quarterly payments beginning July 1, 1926, was started. The response was indeed gratifying as Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wineskie agreed to give \$25,000, and many agreed to give \$5,000 and many others \$2500 and so on down. Fred J. Bartlett agreed to give \$2500, and instead of taking the ten year plan, he volunteered to furnish the materials and labor, necessary to do the electric wiring in the new church up to the amount pledged.

The results of this first meeting and the follow-up brought together one hundred and fourteen subscriptions on the ten-year plan,

amounting to \$142,345. The Finance Committee was gratified over the response of the membership, as these pledges with the amount reasonably expected to be realized from the sale of the old Church property, would enable them to make definite plans in regard to the amount that could sanely be spent in the construction of the new Church and Sunday School building. After this drive for subscriptions had been completed, the Finance Committee could do very little additional until the new Church building was finished and the old Church site made available for sale. The Committee made financial arrangements at the Commercial National Bank, and also with some out of town banks, to furnish what money was needed to take care of expenditures as they developed.

By April 1, 1928, the new Church and Sunday School building was completed to the extent that opening services were held on that date. Some additional expenditures would still have to be made in regard to putting down entrance walks, grading and beautifying the lawn.

All payments to the building contractors had been made promptly and all other items of expense had been paid as they fell due, so one can readily see that with the new Church site and improvements thereon costing more than \$280,000, that a substantial amount of money had been raised from time to time as the requirements demanded.

The Finance Committee had arranged loans at various banks by giving the note of the Church with fifteen of the members endorsing these notes. On April 1, 1928, the Finance Committee had borrowed for the Church under the endorsement plan, amounts as listed below:

Baltimore Trust Company, Baltimore, Maryland	\$ 75,000.00
Atlantic National Bank, Charleston, South Carolina	50,000.00
First National Bank, Thomasville, North Carolina	20,000.00
Virginia Trust Company, Richmond, Virginia	75,000.00
Commercial National Bank, High Point, N. C.	52,000.00
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	\$272,500.00

The Finance Committee had been very active in attempting to sell the old Church site on South Main Street. It had received several offers but had decided not to accept these offers, because they were not for as much as the Committee felt the property should bring, based upon the sale price of other Main Street property which

had been sold within the past year. The Committee felt that the one hundred and thirteen feet on South Main Street running through two hundred and ten feet to South Wrenn Street and also fronting on East Green Street ought to bring at least \$1500 per front foot, or the entire site produce approximately \$169,500.

On May 2, 1928, the Committee sold twenty-two feet fronting on South Main Street and running through to South Wrenn Street, being a strip of land on the North side of the old Church site, to Mr. J. E. Marsh for the sum of \$33,000. Mr. Marsh paid 10% or \$3300 cash and the balance was to be paid in eight yearly installments of equal amounts bearing interest at the rate of 6%.

On May 10, 1928, the Committee filed an application with Lorenzo E. Anderson & Company, 711 St. Charles Street, St. Louis, Missouri for a first mortgage denominational loan of \$175,000 to run for fifteen years at 5 1/2% interest with a curtailment of 5% annually. After considerable correspondence this loan was approved. Lorenzo E. Anderson & Company agreed to accept the Church's bonds at \$95 for each \$100 in value and to accept a first mortgage on the new Church property as security without any personal endorsement. On July 18, 1928, the transaction was completed and the Church received funds as listed below:

Proceeds \$175,000.00 P. V. Bonds at \$95	\$166,250.00
Accrued interest at 5 1/2% from 6/1 to 7/18	1,256.61
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	\$167,506.61
Less Federal Stamp Tax at 50c per thousand dollars par value bonds	87.50
	<hr/>
	\$167,419.11

It was largely through the help of C. H. Marriner, Cashier of the Commercial National Bank, and his standing as a banker that the Church was able to borrow the money needed and to handle these large financial transactions. With the permanent financing of the new Church property on North Main Street most of the outstanding notes of the Church which had been personally endorsed by fifteen Church members had been paid, but unless the sale of the old Church site on South Main Street could be made, additional financing would have to be done. The Committee had been unable to sell the balance of the South Main Street property at a figure it was willing to accept or recommend to the congregation. The prospects

of sale would likely be better later, as the new post office would, according to plans, be located near there soon. It was, therefore, decided to delay the sale of the balance of the South Main Street property until a more favorable time.

With this decision on the part of the Finance Committee, steps were immediately taken to secure a loan to take care of the balance of the personal endorsed notes of the Church outstanding, so that the balance owing would be stabilized over a period of time. On July 25, 1928, C. H. Marriner, Treasurer of the Finance Committee, in line with instructions from the Committee, made the following application: First by personal visit then by a letter confirming same. The letter in part is quoted as follows:

"July 25, 1928.

"Mr. H. W. Jackson, President
Virginia Trust Company
Richmond, Va.

Dear Mr. Jackson:

"I am pleased to confirm herewith verbal information given you with regard to the First Presbyterian Church loan which was discussed in your office on July 24.

"The Church desires to secure from you a two-year loan in the amount of \$125,000.00, interest to be on an accrual basis semi-annual, the said loan to be secure by a deed of trust on 91 ft. of grounds, being a part of the original 113 ft. of the Old Church property. This land is located fronting 91 ft. on South Main Street, 210 ft. on East Green Street, and 91 ft. on South Wrenn Street, that is along the line of J. E. Marsh to Main Street 210 ft.

"In addition, the Church proposes to hypothecate with you eight (8) notes of J. E. Marsh, maturing in eight yearly installments totaling \$29,700.00, these notes secured by a deed of trust on 22 ft. of ground fronting 22 ft. on Main Street, and running through 210 ft. and fronting 22 ft. on Wrenn, this with the 91 ft. already mentioned making up a total of 113 ft. of the original old church property.

"In addition to the deed of trust and notes mentioned the following officers of the Church will individually guarantee the loan.

K. C. Denny	Dr. W. A. Hayes	C. C. Garrett
G. W. Denny	Frank Wineskie	T. J. Gold
W. E. Snow	S. E. Tucker	A. E. Taplin
R. E. Snow	Carter Dalton	F. Logan Porter, Sr.
P. H. Johnson	A. S. Caldwell, Jr.	C. H. Marriner

"As explained to you, the Church bought on North Main Street in the very best residential section five (5) acres of ground, being a corner lot and fronting on three (3) streets, for which it paid \$75,000.00. On this lot was erected a new Church building costing approximately \$225,000.00, making an investment of approximately \$300,000.00 in land, building and equipment on the new Church property.

"Against this property a long term loan was secured with Lorenzo E. Anderson Company of St. Louis, of \$175,000.00, running for fifteen years at 5 1/2% interest, with a curtailment of 5% annually.

"The Church has pledges from members at the present time of approximately \$140,000.00 to meet payments on mortgage of the new property. Since this pledge canvass was made there have been approximately 100 new members added to the church, some of whom are very comfortably fixed and can be counted on to materially add to the subscriptions.

"There is an equity in our 91 ft. of land over our borrowings from you of at least \$24,000.00, to which are added the Marsh notes totaling \$29,700.00, making a total of \$53,700.00 to apply on paying off indebtedness on the new Church.

"Frankly, the reason that the officers of the Church desire to secure this two year loan on the old Church property instead of selling it now is due to information from authoritative sources and in strict confidence that the Federal Government has an option on 100 ft. of ground on the South side of East Green Street fronting 100 ft. on Main, running 210 ft. to Wrenn, and fronting 100 ft. on Wrenn Street. The reason for this option is that the present Post Office facilities in High Point are entirely too crowded and the present site too small to erect the necessary building, and the Government wishes to move and have secured this option with the view of locating there, it being only one block from the present Post Office. We naturally assume that the location of the Post Office on the opposite corner from the old Church property would materially enhance the value, and are anxious to give the Church the benefit of this in-

crease in property. We of course expect you to keep confidential this information, as it comes to us from confidential sources, and we have taken the trouble to verify it from both ends, and know that the school board has given the option, and know from the other end that the Government holds it. The property certainly will not get any cheaper in the meantime, and if this goes through would very materially increase.

"I am enclosing you a bulletin showing cut of the new Church which I think you will find interesting, and will furnish you just as quick as I can get it an enlarged photograph of the new Church. While of course you would not have a mortgage on this property or anything, we felt that you would be interested in what the First Presbyterian Church here is, and what it is trying to do, and a view of the plant would help you a great deal.

"It was understood in our conversation and agreed to today by the Finance Committee of the Church that if the loan as outlined is made it will be satisfactory and agreed to, that we pay you a brokerage fee of 2 1/2%, or \$3125.00.

"The proceeds of this loan you will recall are to be used in retiring \$125,000.00 in open notes of the Church now outstanding, said notes being secured only by the personal endorsements of the same men who are offering to guarantee the loan to you, in addition to giving you a deed of trust and notes as collateral."

On July 26, 1928, Mr. Marriner received the following communication advising that the loan requested had been approved. The letter on account of the interesting details is quoted in part below:

"July 26, 1928.

"Mr. C. H. Marriner,
The Commercial National Bank,
High Point, N. C.

Dear Mr. Marriner:

"It gives me pleasure to advise you that this morning our Executive Committee approved two loans, aggregating One Hundred and Twenty-five Thousand (\$125,000.00) Dollars, to the First Presbyterian Church upon its property fronting 91 feet on South Main Street, 210 feet on East Green Street and 91 feet on South Wrenn Street in High Point, North Carolina, upon the following terms and conditions:

"The deed of trust securing these loans will be dated August 1st and will provide for, primarily:

"A loan of \$65,000.00 which will be evidenced by 6% coupon bonds, payable August 1st, 1930 and, secondarily;

"A loan of \$60,000.00, also payable August 1st, 1930, and as additional security for which secondarily secured loan, the First Presbyterian Church is to deposit with us eight notes of J. E. Marsh aggregating \$29,700.00, maturing in eight yearly installments.

"The bonds evidencing the first mortgage loan are to be redeemable at 101 at any interest period, the bonds evidencing the second mortgage loan are to be redeemable at par. All legal papers, including the assignment of policy in the Lawyers Title Insurance Company of this city, and the printing of bonds, are to be prepared by Mr. Dred Peacock at the expense of the Church and these primarily and secondarily secured bonds are to be purchased by us at 97 1/2 and accrued interest net to this Company.

"It is further understood that Messrs. K. C. Denny, G. W. Denny, W. E. Snow, R. E. Snow, P. H. Johnson, Dr. W. A. Hayes, Frank Wineskie, S. E. Tucker, Carter Dalton, A. S. Caldwell, Jr., C. C. Garrett, T. J. Gold, A. E. Taplin, F. Logan Porter, Sr., and C. H. Marriner are to execute an agreement prepared by our Legal Department, guaranteeing the payment of the bonds and coupons as they fall due.

"It is my understanding that there are no buildings now upon the property in question.

"As I understood from our conversation with you and as I understand from your letter that the terms of the above loans are acceptable to the First Presbyterian Church. I am requesting our attorney to forward Mr. Dred Peacock his instructions for the preparation of the legal papers, so you will see that we are handling this matter for you as promptly as possible."

With the Virginia Trust Company loan approved, the indebtedness of the Church was stabilized for at least two years. The aggregate of the two loans made to the Church was \$300,000. This was a large amount for the Church to owe, but the Committee felt that the old site on South Main Street, when sold would reduce the amount at least by one half. It was thought that with pledges from members totalling over \$140,000 the debt could be carried without any great difficulty.

The Committee members on numerous occasions personally did many hours of work collecting pledges to get enough money together to meet payments due on principal and interest. While over \$140,000 had been originally pledged, in less than two years time the Committee found that the pledges that were good would not total more than \$100,000. In order to meet payments due, many of the members willingly paid several years in advance on their ten year pledge, and with this assistance the Finance Committee was able to keep all payments paid on schedule for over two years.

When the Virginia Trust Company two-year-loan fell due, the old Church site was still unsold and the Church was unable to pay the debt. It was finally agreed that if the Church would pay \$25,000 of the \$125,000 due, that the debt could be extended for another two years. The Finance Committee on June 1, 1931, arranged with the Commercial National Bank of High Point, North Carolina, a loan of \$36,069.70. Out of this money the Committee paid the Virginia Trust Company \$25,000. The balance borrowed was needed to take care of a few miscellaneous bills that had not been paid in connection with building the new Church and to help take care of the interest due the Virginia Trust Company, and a left-over from a payment due the St. Louis bond holders.

After \$20,000 had been paid on the principal debt of \$175,000 to the St. Louis bond holders and all interest payments had been met on schedule the condition of the Nation fell into such a terrible financial depression, that thousands of banks failed. The local situation became so serious that the Church was forced to default on interest and principal on the St. Louis bonds.

The debt of the Church at this time was about as follows:

St. Louis Bond Holders	\$155,000.00
Virginia Trust Company	100,00.00
Commercial National Bank	36,069.70
High Point Perpetual Building and Loan Association	1,500.00
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	\$292,569.70

The Finance Committee had struggled along under the main brunt of the heavy debt, but following the crash of the Commercial National Bank of High Point, North Carolina, in January, 1932, the financial responsibilities of the Church shifted to the shoulders of the Board of Deacons.



OUR SECOND MANSE

Built in 1923

BIOGRAPHY OF
THE REVEREND CHARLES PAUL COBLE

1880 -

The Reverend Charles Paul Coble, son of Daniel H. and Donna Kirkman Coble, was born on September 1, 1880, near Alamance Church in Guilford County, North Carolina.

Charles was one of a family of six children and was reared under the 'old time' family training and also under the discipline of the Alamance Church, where his Christian virtues were early established.

As early as years permitted Charles entered the Tabernacle School, reputed at that time to be the best in Guilford County. This he attended until he was prepared to enter Oak Ridge Academy. From there he entered the University of North Carolina and graduated in 1901. Mr. Coble by this time had fully made up his mind that his life's work was in the Gospel Ministry; so he entered the Columbia Theological Seminary, at Columbia, South Carolina, in 1902. Here he displayed exceptional ability, completing the five year course in three years, besides doing special work in Hebrew. While still a student in the Seminary he filled the pulpit of a church in Charleston, South Carolina, one summer and churches at Hopewell and Effingham, South Carolina, another summer. He founded a church at both Charleston and Effingham.

In 1905 Mr. Coble was licensed to preach by the Pee Dee Presbytery, of South Carolina, and ordained and installed as pastor of the Hopewell and Effingham churches the same year. From this first charge he resigned after a very successful pastorate and accepted a call to the Vineville Avenue Presbyterian Church in Macon, Georgia. He remained at the Macon Church until the year 1913 when he resigned to accept a call to the First Presbyterian Church at High Point, North Carolina. He served in this church with an enviable record for seventeen years, and in January, 1930, resigned to accept a call back to Georgia; this time to the First Presbyterian Church of Douglas.

On August 27, 1908, The Reverend Charles P. Coble and Miss Louise Claussen of Claussen, South Carolina, were united in marriage; and to this union were born four children: Charles P. Jr., William Hughes, Harry White, and Catherine Virginia. Harry W. and Catherine V. were born in High Point.

In each Presbytery where Mr. Coble has been a member he has been active. While serving the Macon, Georgia, Church he was for

three and one-half years Stated Clerk of the Presbytery to which he belonged and while a member of Orange Presbytery, North Carolina, held the office of Stated Clerk from the time of the death of The Reverend D. I. Craig until he moved to Douglas, Georgia, in 1930.

After leaving the High Point Church Mr. Coble served for several years the Douglas, Georgia Church, three-fourths of his time and the Tifton, Georgia Church the other fourth. He then moved to their plantation at Claussen, South Carolina, and for a number of years served as pastor of Hopewell, and Latta churches. In 1951 upon official retirement he moved to 708 West Cedar Street, Florence, S. C., and he and Mrs. Coble reside there. He is still filling church pulpits almost every Sunday, sort of assistant pastor to all the Presbyterian Churches in Florence, and the surrounding territory.





THE REVEREND CHARLES HADDON NABERS, D.D.

CHAPTER XIV

PASTORATE OF THE REVEREND CHARLES HADDON NABERS, D.D.

1930 - 1932

After Mr. Coble resigned as minister of the High Point Church, on September 29, 1929, he agreed to continue to serve through the month of January 1930. On October 6, 1929, the Session named as a Pulpit Committee Elder G. W. Denny, Deacon Lamar McCallum, and Mrs. W. A. Hayes.

Mr. Coble fulfilled his agreement to continue to serve as pastor of the Church through the month of January, and still the Pulpit Committee had no name to recommend as a likely pastor. Since they didn't there followed an intervening period of several months when different ministers supplied the Church Pulpit—some by request of the Pulpit Committee, and others only for the purpose of preaching on that Sunday.

On March 23, 1930, a congregational meeting was held for the purpose of receiving a report from the Pulpit Committee, and transacting any other business which might arise. This meeting was a Pulpit Committee Elder G. W. Denny, Deacon Lamar McCallum, moderated by The Reverend R. Murphy Williams, Pastor of the Church of the Covenant of Greensboro, N. C., and at this meeting the Congregation unanimously voted to call The Reverend Charles Haddon Nabers, D.D., of the First Presbyterian Church of Pensacola, Florida, as pastor. His salary was to be \$5,000.00 per year.

Soon after Dr. Nabers was sent the call, the House and Grounds Committee, which was composed of F. J. Bartlett, W. E. Snow, and E. M. Shipman, presented to the Board of Deacons the necessity of making repairs on the manse. The Board instructed the committee to proceed with the needed work. After the repairs were completed the committee reported that the manse had been redecorated, both inside and out; the floors sanded and refinished; awnings hung; and sun shades put to the windows on the west side of the building.

On March 30, 1930, Elder A. S. Caldwell, Jr., offered his resignation as Clerk of the Session, and after due consideration it was accepted. Then Elder W. A. Hayes was elected to succeed him. In accepting this office Elder Hayes requested that the Diaconate be

asked to secure a treasurer from their number as soon as possible, as he would be unable to continue in the office of both Clerk of the Session, and Church Treasurer.

Dr. Nabers did not accept the call sent him by the High Point Church promptly, but asked for a meeting with the Pulpit Committee to talk over the terms of the call. Elder George W. Denny, and Deacon Lamar McCallum met with Dr. Nabers. At this meeting Dr. Nabers made it clear that he would not shoulder the burden of the Church debt, and that he and his family had previously made arrangements for a trip abroad, that coming summer, and they wanted to make this trip. These things were agreed to by the committee so Dr. Nabers accepted the call.

On April 27, 1930, Dr. Nabers preached his first sermon as Minister of the Church. The congregation was elated with the arrival of the Nabers family in the city, for they could see great things happening in the life of the Church under his leadership.

At the time Dr. Nabers began his pastoral duties, Elder W. A. Hayes was Clerk of the Session, and Church Treasurer; S. E. Tucker was Chairman of the Board of Deacons; Deacon Lamar McCallum was Superintendent of the Sunday School, and Mr. H. L. Curlee was Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Z. I. Walser was President of the Men's Club; and Mrs. Carter Dalton was President of the Woman's Auxiliary.

At the regular monthly meeting of the Diaconate, held on May 6, 1930, Deacon F. J. Bartlett, Secretary of the Board, handed to the Church Treasurer a check from Mrs. Guy P. Henry, to pay the first month's salary of Dr. Nabers. Mrs. Henry was not a member of the Church but was greatly interested in the Presbyterian Church and the success of Dr. Nabers.

The Reverend Charles Haddon Nabers, D.D., was installed as pastor of the Church on June 8, 1930. The Reverend James Wyly Jackson, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwood, S. C., preached the sermon. The Reverend S. M. Rankin of Greensboro, N. C., presided and asked the constitutional questions and delivered the charge to Dr. Nabers, and E. A. Ranson, an elder of the Greensboro First Church, delivered the charge to the congregation.

Clearing the Church of its indebtedness was of paramount importance to most of the congregation, but they did not know how to go about doing it. There was a group of the members, however,

who shared the belief that one way to do it would be by increasing the Church's membership. Mr. S. E. Tucker, Chairman of the Board of Deacons, was one of the leaders in this belief. So sincere was Deacon Tucker in his belief that he spent endless hours with Dr. Nabers seeking out new church members—so diligently did they work doing this, that before Dr. Nabers had been pastor of the Church a year, two hundred names had been added to the Church Roll.

Soon after the arrival of Dr. Nabers, as Minister of the Church several changes were made in the order of worship, and he inaugurated the plan of preaching a short sermon to the children prior to the regular morning sermon.

At a Session meeting held on June 12, 1930, it was voted that two elders and two deacons be appointed to meet with the Pastor and work out some plans for a joint meeting of the officers of the Church. This joint meeting resulted in the organizing of a Men's Council. Elder George W. Denny was chosen as Chairman, Deacon I. Paul Ingle as Vice-Chairman, and Deacon E. M. Shipman as Secretary.

During Mr. Coble's pastorate the Session had voted its approval of vesting the choir, but no steps had been taken to do it. Early in the summer of 1930. Elder W. A. Hayes was asked, by the Session, to confer with Professor Dan W. Smith, Choir Director, and get information concerning the cost of vesting the choir, and report back to the Session. Elder Hayes secured the desired information and on July 7, 1930, the Session appointed the following committee to secure the vestments: Elder W. A. Hayes, Professor Dan W. Smith, Mrs. W. A. Hayes, and Mrs. Cecil H. Marriner.

At the July 7, 1930, Session meeting a petition was presented from the Men's Council asking that a congregational meeting be called on July 20, 1930, for the purpose of electing four additional deacons. This petition was granted and the congregational meeting was held on the designated date and the following deacons were elected: Frank B. Smith, R. K. Young, George E. Hutchens, and Frank F. Dickson. They were ordained and installed at the morning service on October 12, 1930.

Dr. Nabers and family went abroad during the Summer as planned, and on September 21, 1930, he was back in his pulpit. On this same Sunday the new vestments, for the choir were worn for the first time, and the Congregation was delighted with the dignity and worshipful air they lent to the service.

On October 5, 1930, the committee, which had to do with vesting the choir, reported to the Session that through Professor Dan Smith's personal effort, and the hard work of Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Hayes, the vestments had been secured without any cost to the Church.

On Sunday, November 2, 1930, the Minister's Annuity Fund Plan was presented to the congregation. A committee was named by the Pastor to receive pledges, and to see that every member was given an opportunity to assist in this worthy undertaking. In the final report, Deacon Charles W. Perry reported that forty-seven pledges had been made amounting to \$2,210.00.

On December 7, 1930, Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Perry presented to the Church a gift of a beautiful marble Baptismal Font, in memory of their daughter, Frances Dorcas Perry. On the same day the ordinance of baptism was administered to John Caldwell Calhoun Perry, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Perry.

On December 28, 1930, at a Session meeting, Dr. E. C. Holden resigned as an elder of the Church, and at this same meeting Dr. Nabers brought before it a plan he wished to carry out for the following summer. He wanted the Session to grant him permission to exchange pulpits with Dr. William Leach, of Cleveland, Ohio, for one month during the summer. The elders were agreeable to this plan and voted Dr. Nabers permission to carry it out.

At the meeting of the Board of Deacons held on March 10, 1931, the following slate of officers were elected: Chairman S. E. Tucker; Vice-chairman, C. H. Marriner; Secretary, Frank B. Smith; and Church Treasurer, Elder W. A. Hayes.

At the close of the church year ending March 31, 1931, when the yearly report was made out to send Orange Presbytery it is found that there were eleven elders; twenty-two deacons; two hundred and three new members added during the year; total church membership, seven hundred; enrolled in Sunday School, five hundred and seventy-one; \$6,830 paid to Benevolent causes; \$5,000 for Pastor's salary; \$7,092 Current Expenses; \$22,165 Building Expense; total contributions, \$41,811.

In April, 1931, a Young People's Council was organized. These counselors were the Pastor, Elder F. Logan Porter, Sr., Mrs. Lamar McCallum from the Auxiliary, Carl S. Smith from the Sunday School, and Chester Smith and Caroline Dalton from the Young

People's Society. The young people of the Church were to meet every Sunday evening around the supper table with these counselors and discuss any problems on their minds.

At one of the meetings of the Session held in May, 1931, Dr. Nabers stated that he had been elected a delegate by the High Point Rotary Club to attend the next International Convention of the Rotary Club at Vienna, Austria, and that he would like permission to attend. Dr. Nabers' request was granted for a five weeks' vacation, beginning June 8, 1931.

Elder A. E. Taplin brought to the June 28, 1931, Session meeting a request for a congregational meeting to be called for the purpose of handling a matter in connection with the church lot which had been sold to Mr. J. E. Marsh, but later taken back because he could not pay for it. This meeting was duly held as called on July 5, 1931, and at it a motion was made and seconded that the Trustees of the Church give a mortgage to the Commercial National Bank of High Point, North Carolina. This mortgage was to be security for a loan made by that institution to the Church, and also for the protection of the endorsers, who had personally endorsed to help secure the loan. It was to cover the twenty-two feet of land, which had been previously sold to Mr. J. E. Marsh, the mortgage and notes of Mr. Marsh being hypothecated at that time with the Virginia Trust Company of Richmond, Virginia. Upon motion made and seconded the Trustees were authorized to sign a mortgage for the new loan as arranged by Elder W. A. Hayes, Treasurer of the Church, and C. H. Marriner, Treasurer of the Special Finance Committee. At this same congregational meeting the Church Treasurer reported that arrangements had been made with the High Point Perpetual Building and Loan Association whereby the Association agreed to refinance the manse, loaning the additional amount necessary to take care of some unpaid Church obligations.

For a good many years the deacons of the Church had acted as ushers, but in the summer of 1931, it was suggested that the young men of the Church be invited to take over this work. After considering the plan the Board of Deacons authorized Chairman S. E. Tucker, to write letters to all the young men of the church inviting them to take up this work. On Sunday, September 27, 1931, the following young men began this work, and became known as the Junior Ushers: H. M. Baddley, H. L. Balcomb, George A. Bryant, I. P. Caldwell, J. F. Carriker, M. Cerney, George Connor, Sr., P. H. Dalton, III, Sam Denny, Graham Dickson, Carter Friend, L. O.

Hutchins, Tyree Nabors, Robert Overman, Ernest Ritchie, M. A. Temple, Jack Tucker, and Harold White.

At the monthly meeting of the Diaconate on October 13, 1931, it was called to the attention of the members that some of the church members had fallen behind in the payment of their pledges to the extent that the situation was becoming serious, so something would have to be done. By motion of Paul Ingle, seconded by Lamar McCallum, the Board voted to employ a financial secretary to try to collect these pledges. Miss Elizabeth Gillis was secured as such at a salary of \$60.00 a month, to be paid by personal donations from the Board members.

After Miss Gillis took over this work collections improved, but in a short time she accepted another position, at a much larger salary. With her resignation it did not seem wise to try to employ another secretary.

On March 8, 1932, at the monthly meeting of the Diaconate the following officers were elected to serve for the new church year: Chairman, S. E. Tucker; Vice-chairman, Charles W. Perry; Secretary, F. J. Bartlett; and Church Treasurer, Elder W. A. Hayes. With the beginning of this church year it seemed that bad luck was stalking the Church. For the past year the installments due on the building debt had become quite a burden to raise, for the financial condition of the nation, and even of the whole world, was in a precarious condition. Because of the failure of the Commercial National Bank, earlier in the year it had become more acute in the High Point Church. Some of the most liberal contributors had been left practically bankrupt, and many others were hard hit. A payment was due on the \$175,000 issue of Church Bonds, which the Lorenzo E. Anderson Company, of St. Louis, Missouri, had handled; in a short time a payment would be due to the Virginia Trust Company, of Richmond, Virginia; and the Every-Member-Canvass made in February had failed to raise the amount necessary for the Church's operations. The prospect for the new church year seemed hopeless. To some it seemed that the Church's cup was so full of trouble that no more could be added, but this was not true, for on Easter Sunday, March 27, 1932, after the morning service was drawing to a close, Dr. Nabers shocked the congregation by announcing that he had accepted a call to the First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, S. C. This call to take effect immediately, or just as soon as the Congregational Meeting he then called could be held.

Dr. Nabers' pastorate in High Point was of only two years du-

ration, yet during this short period of time he was Minister of it, around three hundred persons had united with the Church. He had truly set a record in member-getting.

The congregational meeting which was called for by Dr. Nabers to be held on April 10, 1932, was unanimously approved by the Session, and Elder G. W. Denny was elected as Moderator of the Session until another Minister could be called.

At the congregational meeting held on April 10, 1932, Dr. Nabers' resignation was considered and accepted, and then a Pulpit Committee was named with instructions to search out a Minister who they could recommend as a Pastor for the Church. Those named on this committee were: Elder F. Logan Porter, Sr., Chairman, Elder W. A. Hayes, Deacon Charles W. Perry, Mrs. K. C. Denny, and Elder Harry L. Brockmann.

There were 720 names on the Church Roll, but never before in its more than seventy years of life, had the Church found itself in such a forlorn and hopeless state. To some the future of the Church was painted in drabest hues, and yet there were others who still had faith and were confident that with the Lord's help, better days would again return.



BIOGRAPHY OF
THE REVEREND CHARLES HADDON NABERS, D.D., Litt.D.

1889 -

The Reverend Charles Haddon Nabers, D.D., Litt.D., the son of Alexander and Martha Haddon Nabers was born at Laurens, South Carolina, on November 13, 1889.

His primary, secondary, and high school education was received in the school system of Anderson, South Carolina, and his collegiate course from Erskine College. He graduated from Erskine College with the degree of A.B. in 1909. From 1909 to 1911 Mr. Nabers taught in a Mission School in Cairo, Egypt. In the fall of 1911 he entered the Erskine Theological Seminary and graduated from there in 1913, and was ordained to the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church in the United States that same year. He served successively as pastor in Prosperity, South Carolina; Tuscaloosa, Alabama; Carrollton, Alabama; and the First Church of Camden, Arkansas until 1923; then the First Presbyterian Church of Pensacola, Florida from 1923-1930; next the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina from 1930-1932; and then as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, South Carolina, until he was made Pastor Emeritus of it.

In 1920 The Reverend Charles Haddon Nabers graduated from the Biblical Seminary of New York.

On October 20, 1914, he was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Whitesides of Hickory Grove, South Carolina, and to this union there was born one daughter, Dorothy.

In 1928, the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon him by his Alma Mater, Erskine College.

In May, 1937, the Presbyterian College of Clinton, South Carolina, conferred the degree of Doctor of Literature on Dr. Nabers.

In 1949 Dr. Nabers was named Moderator of the Synod of South Carolina.

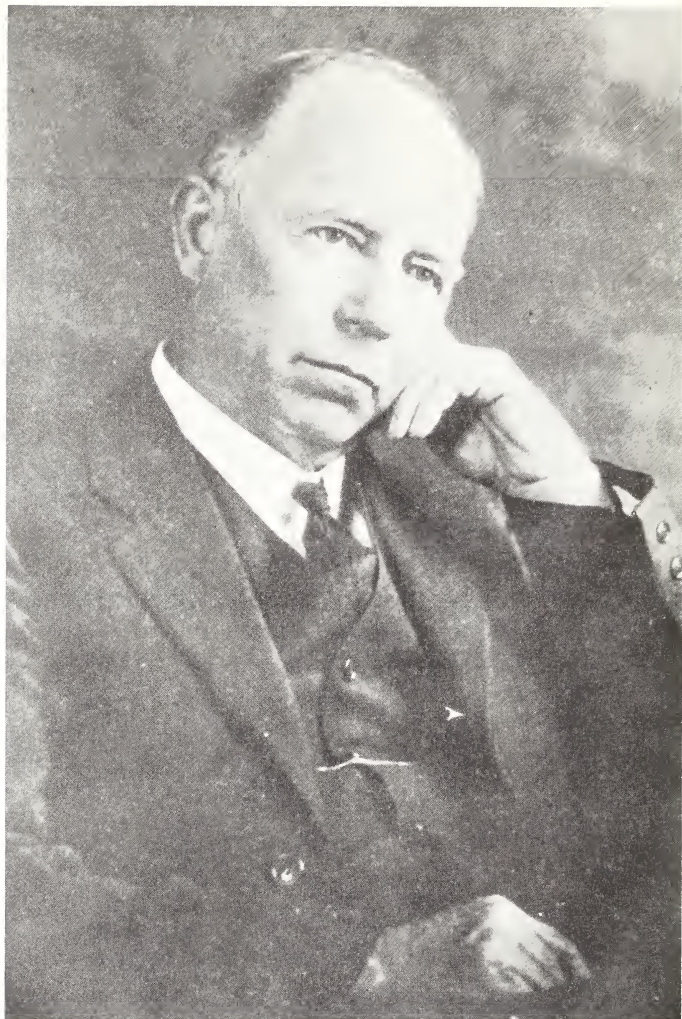
Doctor Nabers has traveled abroad extensively. During World War I he did Y.M.C.A. war service in the home camp. In connection with his pastoral duties he has made quite a name for himself as author, having contributed to literature the following books: *The Monuments of the Nile*, 1914; *Viewpoints*, 1926; *Crucial Chapters in My Father's Book*—, 1927; *The New Testament Correspondence*,

1928; *When Rotary Treks Eastward*, 1928; *The Southern Presbyterian Pulpit*, 1928; *Youth's Choosing*, 1930; *Gladness in Christian Living*, 1931; *Mediterranean Memories*, 1934; *Hear My Voice O God in Prayer*; and *My Morning Meditations*. Dr. Nabers has contributed to several current magazines and papers for many years; contributing a Sunday sermon weekly to the *High Point Enterprise* while in that city; and to the *Greenville News* of his home city.

Dr. Charles Haddon Nabers holds membership in the Masonic order of Knight Templars, and is a member of the Rotary Club — being an ex-president of the High Point, N. C. Rotary Club.

Since becoming Pastor Emeritus of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, S. C., Dr. Nabers has spent much time traveling as Protestant Chaplain on European Tours.





THE REVEREND JOSEPH RENNIE, D.D.

CHAPTER XV

PASTORATE OF

THE REVEREND JOSEPH RENNIE, D.D.

1932 - 1935

From the time of the resignation of Dr. Charles Haddon Nabers, March 27, 1932, to May 1, 1932, the Pulpit Committee of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, N. C., busied itself individually and collectively, looking for a successor to Dr. Nabers. They went here and yon, listening to eligible clergy, and bringing some of them to the Church Pulpit to preach trial sermons. Many of these ministers that came were acceptable to the membership, but out of the Church's financial class. The Church was struggling under a heavy building debt, and the recent financial crash in the nation had crippled the finances of many of the Church members—it would have to resort to calling a pastor at a much smaller salary than it had paid Dr. Nabers. In general, it was conceded that the Church would have to resort to calling a young man just out of the Seminary, or one who had been preaching only a few years.

Sometime during the latter part of April it came to the attention of the Pulpit Committee that Dr. Joseph Rennie, a retired minister, who had been supplying the pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilmington, North Carolina, was available. It was decided to ask Dr. Rennie to preach one Sunday to the congregation, and if he measured up to the recommendations which had preceded him, to call him to supply the Church Pulpit for the summer months. Dr. Rennie came and preached for the First Presbyterian Church congregation on May 1, 1932. He made a favorable impression—such a favorable impression that he was immediately invited to supply the Church pulpit until September 1, 1932.

When Dr. Rennie came to High Point, he and Mrs. Rennie were given rooms at the Elwood Hotel. They were comfortably situated there, but because of the oppressive summer heat, and no porch to enjoy, it was decided, by the church women, to temporarily furnish part of the manse and let the Rennies live there. Dr. and Mrs. Rennie were interested in such a change so the manse was partially furnished by furniture loaned by some of the Church members.

At the time Dr. Rennie came to the Church to supply the pulpit

the membership was seven hundred and twenty. Dr. W. A. Hayes was Clerk of the Session; S. E. Tucker was Chairman of the Diaconate; M. A. Temple of the Board of Junior Ushers; Lamar McCallum was Superintendent of the Sunday School; G. W. Denny was President of the Men's Council; Mrs. John C. Abels was President of the Woman's Auxiliary; Dan Smith was Church Organist and Director of the Choir; and Mrs. Lamar McCallum was Pastor's Aid.

The first Congregational Meeting called after Dr. Rennie's arrival was held on June 30, 1932. It was called for the purpose of renewing a note with the Virginia Trust Company of Richmond, Virginia. Dr. Rennie showed a keen interest in the financial condition of the Church and immediately set out to help with the Church's problems in every way he possibly could. Besides his keen interest in the financial condition of the Church, both he and Mrs. Rennie were devoted to the membership—this devotion was reflected in the congregation.

On August 14, 1932, the Pulpit Committee reported to the Session that, after prayerful and careful consideration, it wished to recommend to the congregation the calling of Dr. Rennie as Stated Supply Pastor of the Church. This Committee recommended that such services begin with September and last until April 1, 1934. At the Congregational meeting held on August 21, 1932, it was unanimously voted to call Dr. Joseph Rennie as Stated Supply Pastor of the Church, for the stipulated period of time recommended by the Committee.

In the early Spring of 1932, the Diaconate had decided to cut the Church expenses, because of the financial conditions of the country, by discontinuing the printing of the Church Bulletins. The congregation had missed the weekly publication of the bulletins, so the Board of Junior Ushers voted to again make the Church Bulletin available to the congregation by contributions from their pockets.

On October 2, 1932, the Board of Junior Ushers reported to the Session that they had perfected their organization; M. A. Temple was Chairman; Sam H. Denny, Vice-chairman; and Harold M. White, Secretary-Treasurer.

It was the custom of the Gleaner's Class to take charge of the Thanksgiving Offering of the Church, for Barium Springs Orphanage; so in spite of the financial condition of the Church, under the

leadership of Mrs. C. H. Marriner, a sum of \$887.37 was collected and taken to Barium Springs.

With the beginning of the fall months a great many business transactions were being presented for signatures to the Trustees, which was composed of the entire membership of the Church Session. It took a great deal of somebody's time to run down the entire Session and get their individual signature to the different documents; so it was suggested that a smaller number of Trustees be elected. At a Congregational Meeting held on November 13, 1932, it was voted to reduce the number of Trustees to three. F. F. Dickson, R. A. McPheeters, and Z. I. Walser were named as Trustees.

In January, 1933, our Church was faced with a mammoth crisis. \$8,500 must be raised immediately. No one knew from where this money was to come. Just a year earlier the largest bank in the city had crashed, and materially reduced the financial status of many of the Church members. Gloom permeated the congregation, and there were members of it who said the amount could not be raised, while others, with a stronger faith, said it could. A plan was mapped out for a concentrated drive. Deacon C. C. Garrett was named Commanding General; Deacon Charles W. Perry, Chief of Staff, and the entire membership of the Church was divided into six divisions, headed by the following Colonels: Elder G. W. Denny, Deacon Frank Wineskie, Mr. R. B. Gantt, Mr. R. B. Terry, Mrs. John C. Abels, and Mrs. Charles W. Perry.

At the pep talk given the workers for this concentrated drive, before the kick-off, Dr. Rennie said: "\$5,000 of the \$8,500 to be raised will go to reducing the Church debt, and the rest for interest and an unpaid balance left over from six months ago . . . To accomplish this great task demands a deep prayerful interest on the part of every individual member of this Church. We need a strong faith in God's willingness to help us. If we trust and ask in importunate prayer; and seek to reach the goal by personal sacrifice, it will be accomplished. This is our crucial moment. God's call is for believing, earnest prayer, and work."

The result of this great drive was gratifying—more than two hundred and fifty members of the Church had contributed to the fund on first count. The full amount had not been collected. Another meeting of the men's division was called, and the campaign continued until the full amount required was raised.

From the Statistical Report for the Church Year, 1932-1933,

it is found that twelve members had joined the Church by letters; two on examination and profession of their faith, and nine infants had been baptised. There was an enrollment of 525 in Sunday School and total gifts to all causes was \$30,036.00.

At the Diaconate meeting in March, Charles W. Perry, who had been serving as Chairman of the Board since the resignation of the Chairman S. E. Tucker, was named Chairman of this board with R. K. Young as Vice-chairman, and F. J. Bartlett as Secretary.

For a period of more than twelve years Elder W. A. Hayes had served as the Church Treasurer. Several years prior to the April meeting of the Diaconate he had been elected as Clerk of the Session and had asked to be relieved of his duties as Treasurer. Up to this time nothing had been done about his request, however, at this meeting the Board of Deacons named R. A. McPheeters to relieve Elder Hayes of the Treasurership of the Church. Then as a token of appreciation to Dr. Hayes, for all of the sacrificial work he had done in the past twelve years as Church Treasurer, the officers and the congregation presented him with a gold watch and chain.

At the Congregational meeting held May 14, 1933, R. A. McPheeters was elected a Deacon along with Donald E. Headen, and P. Hunter Dalton, III. At this same meeting two additional Elders were also elected—Dr. H. L. Brockman and Frank B. Smith.

Since the organization of the Junior Ushers, these young men had been very active, doing with a willing spirit all they were called upon to do. Around the first of November the Chairman of the Board of Deacons suggested to the Session that the name of the Junior Ushers henceforth be known as the Board of Associate Deacons, and that each associate deacon be assigned to a deacon as an understudy. The Session thought well of this suggestion and in appreciation of the services of the Junior Ushers changed the name of their organization to Associate Deacons and authorized the publishing of this change of name in the Church Bulletin.

Early in the month of December, 1933, a representative of the defunct Lorenzo E. Anderson and Company of St. Louis, Missouri, wired the Church that a committee representing the bond-holders would be in High Point at an early date to confer with the officers of the Church in regard to the payment of the Church's bonds they held. These bonds had been in default, as to both interest and principal for a number of months. A special Finance Committee, composed of Charles W. Perry, Chairman, Carter Dalton, and C. C. Gar-

rett was named at a joint meeting of the Session and Diaconate, to meet the representatives of the bond-holders—point out to them the distressing financial condition the Church was in, and get the best proposition they possibly could for a settlement.

The term of Dr. Rennie's Stated Supply Pastorate was drawing to a close; so the Session in a meeting held on January 23, 1934, asked the same Pulpit Committee, which had previously served, to continue in that capacity. On the last Sunday in January, this committee reported to the Session that it was ready to make a report to the congregation. A Congregational meeting was held on February 4, 1934, and at this meeting the Pulpit Committee recommended the calling of Dr. Joseph Rennie, as regular Pastor of the Church. The recommendation unanimously carried, and was a great compliment to Dr. Rennie, as he was over seventy-five years of age at the time.

The special Finance Committee held several conferences with the bond-holder's representatives. The representatives finally agreed to compromise the entire debt of the Church's outstanding bonds and interest in the amount of \$181,000 for \$50,000 cash, if settlement be made prior to January 1, 1934, or \$55,000 cash if paid prior to February 1, 1934, or \$60,000, if paid during the month of February. Failure of the Church to comply with these terms would force immediate foreclosure and sale of the Church property.

The officers and membership of the Church realized that the compromise offer from the representatives of the bond-holders was a good one, but no one knew where to turn to raise \$50,000.00. Since the proposition was received, even though it seemed a good one, a curtain of despair had dropped upon the membership of the Church, and it had the officers terribly worried. Several meetings had been held, but no solution had turned up. It was now mid-January and the time for the best offer had past—even if some one could be found who would loan the money the amount of money had increased and was then \$55,000.00, and the amount would soon increase to \$60,000.00.

Times were bad in the whole country, thousands of banks had failed, and many of them would never re-open. The bond handling company had been caught in this terrible depression, and was in the hands of a receiver—waiting to be liquidated. Another meeting of the Church officers was called. No one had been found who would, or could help in raising the thousands of dollars needed. Prayers



ELDERS OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
(1934)

First row left to right: Dr. W. A. Hayes, Carter Dalton, Dr. Joseph Rennie, (*Minister*) Dr. H. L. Brockmann, Frank B. Smith, Z. I. Walser; *Second row:* Sam Wiley, Sr., George Taylor, George W. Denny, A. E. Taplin, F. Logan Porter, Sr., and A. S. Caldwell, Jr.

were said, and the matter was discussed from all angles. Most of the men then left the meeting, feeling that every thing was lost. A few of the officers remained to pray with Dr. Rennie that they might be directed to some one who could loan the Church the money, until the congregation could get on its financial feet again.

Not yet knowing which way to turn to secure the needed thousands, Charles W. Perry, Chairman of the Special Finance Committee, shook hands with Dr. Rennie, and they parted for the rest of the night. The parting was clouded with gloom—almost despair, but there still lingered a feeling of determination, and faith that made

them confident that something would work out the next day, but the night was a restless one for both of them. Next morning after a night of continuous prayer by Dr. Rennie, and much praying by the Chairman of the Finance Committee, the two decided to go to Greensboro—to the President of the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company again, and make another appeal to him for financial help. President Julian Price turned a deaf ear on the two. Then it was that Dr. Rennie asked Mr. Price if he might say a prayer. The request was granted, and Chairman Perry said a more powerful prayer was never made than the one Dr. Rennie prayed right there in the office of the President of the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company. After the prayer Mr. Price seemed more considerate—needless to say the prayer was answered, for soon Mr. Price agreed to grant the needed loan, but within certain requirements on the part of the Church congregation. His life insurance company would loan the money needed, and he would personally guarantee the loan to the Company, provided the Church membership would raise \$10,000.00 to show good faith and a determination to save the Church from foreclosure. This was a lot of money, but Mr. Price had given us a fighting chance to keep the Church.

On Sunday, January 28, 1934, it was reported in the Church Bulletin that definite plans were underway to stabilize the bonded indebtedness, but \$10,000.00 in cash must be raised at once. The Church officers and membership moved with speed and in the Church Bulletin of February 11, 1934, a report from the Special Finance Chairman was carried which said, "We are short about \$900.00 of the \$10,000.00 that we had to raise to meet the conditions to save the Church property from foreclosure. We have temporarily arranged the amount and details are almost complete whereby we are borrowing the needed money from Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company, Greensboro, N. C. The loan is being arranged on very desirable terms, making it possible to avail ourselves of a great saving, brought about by accepting the compromise offer of the receiver of the defunct St. Louis bond-holders company—paying outstanding bonds of \$155,000.00, plus accrued interest, making the total indebtedness \$181,000.00, for \$65,000.00—saving \$116,000.00, or settling the full debit at about thirty-five cents on the dollar."

For a number of years some of the Church's officers had not been attending church services or their respective board meetings. Some of the faithful officials of the Church openly voiced their disapproval of these dilatory officials, and thought that offices in the

Church would be valued more highly if they were not officers for life. Several years before General Assembly had approved the Rotary System for Presbyterian Church, Officers, Elders and Deacons. The Board of Deacons in the High Point Church favored such a plan, but the Board of Elders did not. The deacons present at the February, 1934, diaconate meeting, unanimously voted favoring this Rotary System, and respectfully sent a request to the Session to allow their board to go on this limited term plan—allowing the congregation to elect fifteen active deacons and retire any of the old deacons, not elected, to an inactive status.

The request from the Board of Deacons was granted by the Session and on February 18, 1934, a list of the men of the Church were put in the hands of the congregation, and they were asked to be ready to vote for fifteen of the men for deacons and fifteen for associate deacons on the following Sunday.

On Sunday, March 11, 1934, the Election Committee, composed of Elder A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Elder W. A. Hayes, and Elder Frank B. Smith reported the results of the previous Sunday's balloting, and declared the following deacons elected: Frank F. Dickson, D. E. Headen, Lamar McCallum, W. E. Snow, S. E. Tucker, P. H. Dalton III, G. E. Hutchens, R. A. McPheeters, Frank Wineskie, R. K. Young, F. J. Bartlett, K. C. Denny, C. C. Garrett, I. Paul Ingle, and Charles W. Perry.

The Associate Deacons were: M. A. Campbell, J. F. Carricker, George Connor, J. Sanders Dallas, Sam H. Denny, Williard M. Dyer, John Herndon, Charlie Hodgins, L. O. Hutchens, J. B. Kelly, William D. Lemons, Robert Overman, George Rankin, M. A. Temple, and Harold M. White.

At this same congregational meeting a resolution was presented and adopted instructing and empowering the Church Trustees to have prepared signed, and delivered to the Virginia Trust Company of Richmond, Virginia, a second mortgage, or deed of trust, on the new Church property. This mortgage to be second to the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company's loan, but to be on the same property that the first mortgage covered.

Since an entirely new board of deacons had been elected it was necessary for the Diaconate to elect officers. The meeting was held. K. C. Denny was named Chairman; G. E. Hutchens, Vice-chairman; F. J. Bartlett, Secretary; and R. A. McPheeters, Treasurer. On the same evening the Associate Board of Deacons met and named the



DIACONATE (1934)

First row left to right: Fred J. Bartlett, W. E. Snow, Robert McPheeters, Frank Wineskie, R. K. Young, Frank Dickson, S. E. Tucker; *Second row:* Lamar McCallum, D. E. Headen, P. Hunter Dalton, III, K. C. Denny, Charles W. Perry; *Top row:* I. Paul Ingle, George E. Hutchens, and C. C. Garrett.

following officers: M. A. Temple, Chairman; Sam H. Denny, Vice-chairman; and Harold M. White, Secretary.

The call to Dr. Rennie from the Church, on February 4, 1934, was accepted by him and on March 16, 1934, at a meeting of Orange Presbytery, held in Graham, N. C., Elder G. W. Denny of High Point First Church presented the call the Church had extended Dr. Rennie for his pastoral services. Orange Presbytery approved the call and appointed the following commission to install Dr. Rennie as pastor of the High Point Church; The Reverend M. S. Husk to preside and propound the constitutional questions, The Reverend



ASSOCIATE DEACONS (1934)

First row left to right: Harold M. White, George C. Connor, Sr., M. A. Temple, and F. R. Barringer; *Second row:* William L. Smith, Willard Dyer, George L. Rankin, and J. B. Kelly; *Third row:* Sam H. Denny, Charlie Hodgins, Sanders Dallas, and Robert Overman.

C. E. Hodgins, D.D., to charge the Pastor and congregation, and The Reverend Ronald C. Wilson as an alternate to each. The Presbytery also granted the request of the Session of the High Point Church, to write The Reverend H. V. Carson, D.D., son-in-law of Dr. Rennie, of Montgomery, Alabama, to preach the sermon on the occasion of the installation.

The installation services were held, as planned, on April 8, 1934, at the eleven o'clock service. The Reverend Ronald C. Wilson, however, charged the congregation and the Pastor, in lieu of the fact Dr. C. E. Hodgins could not be present.

From the Statistical Report, 1933-1934, sent to Orange Presbytery at the same time the call for Dr. Rennie's services was prosecuted, there is found there had been added during the church year five by profession of faith, and eleven added by letter. The total membership of the Church was 619, the Sunday School enrollment was 555, and the total amount of monies contributed to all causes was \$27,492.00. It was also reported that during the same year two devout Elders of the Church had been lost—W. W. Smith by death and Eli Light by moving from the city to South Carolina.

With all of the financial difficulties the Church had been through it was indeed strange that no one had before thought of a plan to lease the whole Church lot on South Main Street, instead of only a small part of it, which was only bringing in \$35.00 per month. At the June Diaconate meeting a special committee, composed of Charles W. Perry, G. E. Hutchens, and Frank Wineskie was appointed, with instructions to lease the whole Church lot, opposite the new Post Office, to some responsible oil company, for a period not to exceed ten years. An agreement from the Marine Oil Company, to lease the Church lot for \$125.00 per month was obtained, and by recommendation of the Diaconate and the Session, a contract was formally approved by a Congregational meeting held on September 9, 1934.

During the year 1934, the Church was passing through an unusual period of its existence. Besides the adjustment of the Church debt, and the change in the Board of Deacons to the Rotary System, it was rounding out seventy-five years of its existence. During the late spring and summer months of that year plans were being laid for a celebration of this great occasion, but due to the fact that Dr. Rennie would be away on his vacation on the actual date of the founding of the Church—September 3, 1934, the date for the celebration was set for September 23 and 24 instead.

Having no money to spend on the celebration of this diamond jubilee was depressing to the Church membership. As usual the women took the Church's sorry plight in hand—money or no money a celebration was a must. Mrs. W. A. Hayes and her Circle decided there was a way to do it. They began to think how it could be done. The History for the first seventy-five years of the Church was completed. Pictures of all of the former pastors of the Church had been obtained—some tintypes and some just newspaper clippings. Mr. Thomas Dodamead was contacted, and because of the existing finan-

cial condition of the country there was no great demand on an artist at this time, so Mr. Dodamead agreed to do a portrait of each of the Pastors, in color, at a very low figure. There was still no money in sight but with faith it could be found. Mr. Dodamead was commissioned to do these portraits. How was this money raised? It was raised in many ways—serving meals, and accepting the generous offer of Mr. Roy Spearman, a Baptist and Commercial photographer who volunteered to take pictures gratis, of all of the organizations of the Church, and then give us enough prints of these pictures to sell to each of the persons in the different groups. Then there was the idea of asking for volunteer contributions, if any one wanted to pay for one of the portraits. One or two such contributions were received, and in the end Mr. Dodamead received every cent he had asked for doing the portraits.

The portraits paid for, there was something else that Mrs. Hayes' Circle felt must be done. There must be a real celebration—a banquet. The specter of money again raised its ugly head. It would take money to buy food. Somewhere Mrs. Hayes learned that the Kraft Company would serve a dinner without cost as an advertising means. The proper authorities were contacted and arrangements for such a dinner was completed, but there were going to be other expenses at such a dinner. It was decided to sell tickets at .25 cents apiece.

At this banquet Mr. Carter Dalton, a grandson of the founder of the Church, The Reverend Pleasant Hunter Dalton, acted as toastmaster. A former pastor, The Reverend E. L. Siler was speaker for the occasion. The Reverend Mr. Siler also accepted the portraits of the former pastors, for the Church, and the historian gave a brief history of the Church's seventy-five years of existence.

At the close of the year, 1934, the financial condition of the Church had eased up a bit but the membership was still worried, although full of gratitude to Dr. Rennie for his prayers and great love.

By the spring of 1935, the Church Roll showed an increase of eleven in its membership, since Dr. Rennie had come. The strain of the trying years since Dr. Rennie had been providentially sent to the High Point Church were beginning to tell on him. His family thought it best for him to retire, so in October of 1935, he read a formal request to the Session to be relieved as early as possible of the pastoral duties of the First Presbyterian Church, High Point, North Carolina.

A Congregational Meeting was called and held on November 17, 1935, to consider Dr. Rennie's resignation. At this meeting the congregation reluctantly voted to accept his request.

On December 8, 1935, Elder G. W. Denny was elected Moderator Pro Tem of the congregation and Elder W. A. Hayes permanent Clerk. At this same meeting Elder Carter Dalton offered a motion which carried, that a Pulpit Committee of seven, composed of two women and five men be elected to secure a pastor. The following women and men were named to this committee: Mrs. T. Wingate Andrews, Mrs. C. C. Garrett, Sam H. Denny from Associate Deacon Board, Charles W. Perry and R. A. McPheeters from the Diaconate, and Elder F. Logan Porter, Sr., and Elder W. A. Hayes. Elder Hayes was named Chairman of the Pulpit Nominating Committee.



BIOGRAPHY OF
THE REVEREND JOSEPH RENNIE, D.D.

1860 - 1943

The Reverend Joseph Rennie, D.D., the son of Joseph Richard Rennie and Ella Rosalin Powell Rennie, was born in Richmond, Virginia on July 15, 1860.

Dr. Rennie's early education was received from the public schools in the country near Richmond, Virginia. From 1880 to 1882 he was a student at Richmond College, and in 1885 he received an A.B. degree from Hampden-Sidney College, Virginia, and in 1888, received the degree of B.D. from the Union Theological Seminary of Richmond, Virginia. In 1902 he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Central University (now Center College) Kentucky.

On October 25, 1888, he was married to Miss Ellen Eugenia Goodall, of Richmond, Virginia, and to this union there were born four children, three daughters, Mary Christian (Mrs. Robert Job Wyatt); Edith Cecil (wife of The Reverend H. V. Carson); Eugenia Christian (Mrs. L. L. Rose); and a son, Joseph.

In the year 1887, The Reverend Mr. Rennie was licensed by East Hanover Presbytery to preach, and in 1888, he was ordained by the Roanoke Presbytery into the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. From the time of his ordination on to 1923, he successively served: The First Presbyterian Church of Chase City, Virginia; the First Presbyterian Church of Oxford, North Carolina; the Stuart Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church of Louisville, Kentucky; Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, Covington, Kentucky; the First Presbyterian Church of Norfolk, Virginia; and the First Presbyterian Church of Greenwood Mississippi. From that time on, as long as he continued to preach, he served the First Presbyterian Church, St. Joseph Missouri from 1923 to 1931; then he supplied the Pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church of Wilmington, North Carolina, from January 1, 1932, to April of that same year; from May 1, 1932, to September 1, 1932, he supplied the pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church, High Point, N. C.; from September 1, 1932, to April, 1934, he served the High Point church as its Stated Supply Pastor; and then from April 1, 1934, to October 1, 1935 he served the High Point Church as its Pastor. This last pastorate of his was an unusual one, since the High Point Church gave him a call as Pastor to it, after he was seventy-five years old.

Dr. Rennie was a member of the Phi Kappa Alpha Fraternity; a member of the National Economic League; an Odd Fellow; a Kiwanian; Trustee of Hampton-Sidney College from 1903 to 1912; Trustee of Southwestern College, Memphis, Tennessee from 1917 to 1923. During the latter years of his life, he took an active part in the Red Cross work, also was speaker for the Enforcement of Peace, and the League of Nations.

Dr. Joseph Rennie was a devoted father; a wonderful friend; a loving Pastor whose candid frankness often called the attention of the congregation to their short comings in Christian living; and a powerhouse of faith and prayer, as he served the Master he knew and loved so well. On September 30, 1943, Dr. Rennie received his last call—this one to his eternal home. At the time this call came, he and Mrs. Rennie were making their home with a daughter in Raleigh, N. C., Mrs. Robert J. Wyatt. Dr. Rennie had been especially devoted to the High Point congregation, so when it came to making a decision, as to who the pall bearers would be, officers from the First Presbyterian Church, High Point, North Carolina, were chosen to lay his remains to rest in a Raleigh Cemetery.





PRESIDENTS OF WOMAN'S AUXILIARY THROUGH 1934

First row left to right: Mrs. W. A. Hayes, Mrs. E. M. Shipman, Mrs. F. Logan Porter, Sr., Mrs. A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Mrs. Carter Dalton; Second row: Mrs. John C. Abels, Mrs. Theresa Foy Ingle (Mrs. I. P.), Mrs. Lanna McCallum, Mrs. K. C. Denny, Mrs. A. E. Taplin; Back row: Mrs. Frank B. Smith, and Mrs. Charles W. Perry.

CHAPTER XVI

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

1859 - 1934

No history of a church is complete unless somewhere within its pages are found references to the work accomplished by the women. When the First Presbyterian Church was organized there were eleven charter members, and of this number there were five women; namely, Mrs. Margaret H. Denny, Mrs. Letitia Foster, Mrs. Eliza C. Dalton, Miss Maggie Lynn, and Mrs. Rebecca Sechrest. The founding of the Church was only a few years prior to the Civil War, so the conditions under which these women served were ever changing from days of peace and plenty, to those of anxiety, war, sorrow and poverty. The very earliest works of these women were not recorded for they were far too busy with their household duties to bother with recording activities which seemed uneventful and considered of no interest to others.

It is likely that the first leader of the Women in the Church was Mrs. Eliza C. Dalton, the minister's wife, for in those days it was the custom for the pastor's wife to lead the women in all of their endeavors. The places in the church where woman might serve then, were not as numerous as they are today. The main places were in entertaining the visiting "preachers" and helping prepare the elements for the celebration of the Lord's Supper. Besides those places there was yet another place women sometimes served in those early days.

Mrs. Ellen Hedgecock English was not born a Presbyterian. By birth she was a Quaker—the granddaughter of the first settler in this locality—John Hitchcock. Early in life she married Lurton English "Out-of-Meeting." In those days a member of the Quaker Meeting had to be married in "Meeting," or get permission from it to be married elsewhere. Ellen did neither, so for this wilfulness was expelled from the Meeting until she would comply with her Church's rules.

On October 21, 1860, Mrs. Lurton English joined the newly organized Presbyterian Church, and soon after she did her husband died leaving her with several small children and little material wealth. She worried because she was unable to contribute to her

church, until it came to her that she could serve her Master in other ways than by gifts of money. The Church was not able financially to employ a sexton. Mrs. English lived near the Church. She could make her contribution by keeping the building clean; so on each Saturday, before the Sabbath services were to be held, she and her two daughters, Alice and Josephine, washed and filled the lamps, swept the floor, and dusted the benches.

The first woman assisting in the preparations of the elements for The Lord's Supper is not known, but beginning with the year 1878, Mrs. Mary B. Rankin, the wife of Elder W. T. Rankin, quarterly rendered this service. A short time before Mrs. Rankin's death this service was assumed by Mrs. Alice E. Snow, the wife of Elder E. A. Snow, and from that time until the death of her husband, Mrs. Snow faithfully helped prepare this Holy Sacrament. After the death of her husband this service was taken up by her daughter Helen. S. Hayes, the wife of Elder W. A. Hayes, and Mrs. Margaret J. Denny, the wife of Elder G. W. Denny.

In a great many of the Church's affairs woman holds the honor of being first. Such an honor goes to Mrs. Margaret H. Denny, who organized the first Sunday School in the community—organized it two years before the actual founding of the First Presbyterian Church in High Point.

Besides the previously mentioned ways woman has helped there is yet another way which is of mammoth importance. She has willingly and joyously helped with the music in both the Sunday School and Church. The first organist of the Church was Mrs. Eliza C. Dalton; the next, Miss Eliza Fisher (Mrs. Philip B. Rogers); and in succession Miss Daisy Rankin; Miss Nannie Dinwiddie; Mrs. E. L. Siler; Miss Ruby Snow (Mrs. Bencini); Miss Dorothy Snow (Mrs. J. I. Groome); and Miss Thelma E. Wineskie (Mrs. Ben Cooper).

A short time after the Church was founded there was a society supposedly organized for the women, but no record of it is left. It is definitely known though that there was a Missionary Society existing as far back as 1885. Sometime in the nineties this society faded from the records.

In the year 1890, a meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Ben Jordan, for the purpose of organizing a Ladies' Aid Society. This organization was, as the name implies, an aid society—doing any and everything for the Church, from cleaning floors, to buying a carpet for it.

After the new Church building was completed on South Main Street, because of no funds, there was a tie-up in getting a much desired carpet for the sanctuary floor. Mrs. Philip Rodgers (Miss Eliza) decided this was no excuse; so she offered to the Ladies' Aid Society two propositions—one, making a Signature Quilt, with a charge for each name that was written upon it; the other proposition was to secure pledges that would finish paying for the carpet. These could be paid in monthly installments and she would collect them herself. The women voted to accept "Miss Eliza's" propositions and she lived up to her agreement—walking the rounds each month collecting pledges until enough money to pay for the carpet was collected. After the money was in hand, and the Carpet Committee went to buy it they found the figures they had on the purchasing of the carpet did not include the sewing of it together. This did not disturb the Committee too much. The Ladies' Aid could do that.



Miss Eliza's Signature Quilt, now in the possession of Mrs. W. G. Shipman, photographed in 1959 with some of our members dressed in costumes of the past day.

After the death of the Missionary Society, which was organized in 1885, there was no known active Missionary Society until Sunday morning, March 20, 1904, when The Reverend E. L. Siler requested all ladies who were interested in Missions to remain after service. A large number of the ladies remained and there was organized a Presbyterian Home and Foreign Missionary Society, with twenty-two charter members. This society was to meet on the fourth Monday afternoon in each month, and the officers were: President, Mrs. Thomas H. Patten; Vice-president, Mrs. E. L. Siler; Secretary, and Treasurer, Mrs. Philip B. Rodgers.

From the beginning this society was strictly missionary—a designated Mission Field was chosen for study each month and the pledges paid in were contributed to the cause of missions. In time these meetings became so interesting that the men of the church asked permission to attend them, and soon there were more names of men on the society roll than there were women.

In time the interest in this society began to wane, and by October, 1907, its membership voted to merge it with prayer meeting for one Wednesday night in each month.

This merger with prayer meeting did not work out in a satisfactory way, so there was organized another Missionary Society, known as the P. H. Dalton Missionary Society.

The Aid Society, mentioned in connection with the P. H. Dalton Missionary Society in the Session Minutes, is undoubtedly the same Aid Society organized in 1890. However, there is no definite record of it found until January 5, 1914. From minutes found of the meeting of this society held then one reads:

“There being no business, election of officers for the year was declared in order. Mrs. Rogers occupying the chair during the election the following officers were elected: Mrs. A. S. Caldwell, Jr., President; Mrs. John S. Campbell, Vice-President; Mrs. C. T. Moreland, Secretary; and Mrs. Frank Wineskie, Treasurer.”

On Sunday evening, May 2, 1920, a meeting of the ladies of the Church was held to decide whether it was advisable to adopt “The Circle Plan,” as recommended by Presbyterial. The Reverend C. P. Coble, Pastor, and Mrs. E. M. Shipman made short explanatory talks on the proposed plan. A motion was then made by Mrs. W. G. Shipman, and seconded by Mrs. K. C. Denny that the two societies—the P. H. Dalton Missionary, and the Ladies’ Aid Society unite and go under “The Circle Plan.” There was much discussion which

ended in the adoption of this new plan. Then the following officers were elected to lead this new society: Mrs. E. M. Shipman, President; Mrs. A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Vice-president; Mrs. A. E. Taplin, Secretary; and Mrs. Frank Wineskie, Treasurer.

The name for this new organization was to be known as The Woman's Auxiliary, and the first Executive Board Meeting was held on May 3, 1920, at the home of Mrs. A. S. Caldwell, Jr. At this meeting seven circle chairmen were named—five for the regular circles; one for the Business Girls; and one for the Young Ladies' Circle. Mrs. W. W. Smith was at this same meeting named Secretary of Prayer Bands and Bible Study. At the second Executive Board meeting held on Friday of that same week, a budget of \$700 was adopted for the year, and Mrs. W. H. Plummer was appointed Secretary Pastor's Aid.

With all of the preliminaries behind them the Auxiliary held its first general meeting on May 17, at the home of Mrs. K. C. Denny.

When the first year's work under the name of "Woman's Auxiliary" was completed on March 31, 1921, the report showed three prayer bands, and a total of \$837 had been paid into the Treasurer.

The same Executive Committee and Officers continued in office for the second year, with things in the auxiliary going on much the same as they had the year before, except for the dropping of a circle; naming Mrs. C. P. Coble, Secretary of Prayer Bands and Bible Study; Mrs. G. W. Denny, Secretary Pastor's Aid; and the adopting of a budget of \$1500 plus the promise of an additional \$1000 as a gift towards the erection of the Hut.

During the year there were many ways in which the promised monies were raised—besides the pledges there were ice cream suppers, and oyster stews served—besides the sponsoring of special sales booths, when the occasion presented itself.

By September 26, 1921, the Hut was completed and with fifty-nine members present the General Meeting of the Auxiliary was held in it. The Hut was an ideal workshop for these ambitious women, so a Bazaar and Turkey Dinner was held in it on December 8, 1921—so successful was this project that it was repeated annually for a number of years.

For the year 1922-1923, the following women were elected as leaders of the Auxiliary: Mrs. A. S. Caldwell, Jr., President; Mrs.

A. E. Taplin, Vice-president; Miss Minnie Pollock, Secretary; and Mrs. Oscar McCampbell, Treasurer.

At the first general meeting of the year, Mrs. Frank Wineskie was named Secretary Pastor's Aid; Mrs. E. M. Hendrix, Secretary of Spiritual Life; Mrs. D. M. Pollock, Chairman of The Business Girls' Circle (Name of circle changed during the year to Coble Circle); and a budget of \$4000 was adopted.

Earlier in the year a request had come to the Auxiliary for it to join with all other auxiliaries, in celebrating the tenth birthday of the Greater Auxiliary. This request was voted favorably upon and on May 15, 1922, a birthday party was held and \$37.10 was received and sent to Atlanta, Ga., as a birthday gift.

At the close of the year 1922-1923, the report showed four prayer bands, six tithers, seven family altars in the Auxiliary, and a total of \$4,151 having passed through the Treasurer's hands.

For the year 1923-1924, the following women were elected to the Executive Board: Mmes. W. A. Hayes, President; K. C. Denny, Vice-president; Carter Dalton, Secretary; W. G. Shipman, Treasurer; E. M. Shipman, Talent Treasurer; Frank Wineskie, Secretary Pastor's Aid; and C. P. Coble, Secretary Spiritual life.

In Mr. Coble's talk to the General meeting, at the first of the year, he requested that the women endeavor, throughout the year, to make the General meeting radiate more spirituality and less business. At this same meeting a budget of \$4500 was adopted for the year.

During the year \$600 was paid in on the installment of a heating plant in the Hut, and on March 25, 1924, the new manse on Colonial Drive was completed and ready for occupancy. The Auxiliary had donated shades for the manse; a combination gas and wood range; the personal gift of a hand painted breakfast room suite to the Coble family; and when the Cobles had moved into the new manse, gave them a pounding and house warming. At the close of the year it was found that the budget had been over subscribed by \$540, and the Auxiliary had attained a seventy percent average on the Standard of Excellency.

For the year 1924-1925, the following were chosen officers of the Auxiliary: Mmes. A. E. Taplin, President; K. C. Denny, Vice-president; Carter Dalton, Secretary; Charles W. Perry, Treasurer; E. M. Shipman, Talent Treasurer; E. W. Holton, Secretary of Spiritual Life; and A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Secretary Pastor's Aid.

At the beginning of the year's work there was a merger of the Junior Girl's and Young Ladies' Circles, and the decision to send Barium Spring's Orphanage, monthly a dollar from each circle.

At the close of this year a total of \$2,304 was reported having been received into the treasury, four prayer bands, and a percent of seventy attained on the Standard of Excellency.

Officers for the year 1925-1926, were: Mmes. K. C. Denny, President; Carter Dalton, Vice-president; B. C. Page, Secretary; W. E. Herndon, Treasure; E. M. Shipman, Talent Treasurer; E. W. Holton, Secretary of Spiritual Life; and R. L. Waynick, Secretary Pastor's Aid.

The Reverend Coble at the first General meeting of the year continued to point out his desire for more spirituality in the General meetings, he said, "One may become so busy in making dollars that there may be a dearth of time for Spiritual Growth."

After hearing Mr. Coble's talk the Auxiliary voted to omit the yearly bazaar and to strive to give more instead. As a result of this decision the Auxiliary, at the close of the Church year, found itself on a much higher spiritual plane and its financial status not impaired. Five prayer bands were recorded, twenty-eight tithers, forty-seven family altars, and a percent of ninety attained on the Standard of Excellency.

The year 1926-1927, chose as its leaders: Mmes. Lamar McCallum, President; Carter Dalton, Vice-president; Theresa Ingle (I Paul), Secretary; W. E. Hendron, Treasurer; F. Logan Porter, Sr., Talent Treasurer; E. W. Holton, Secretary of Spiritual Life; and Kenneth C. Denny, Secretary Pastor's Aid. At the close of the year the Treasurer reported an increase over the amounts paid in during the preceeding year, and the name of the Young Ladies' Circle had been changed to the Alma Headen Circle—honoring Miss Headen who had taken up her Master's work in foreign fields.

The harmonious spirit which prevailed in the Auxiliary throughout the year 1926-1927, gave the President, Mrs. Lamar McCallum, courage to continue in that office for the year 1927-1928, so with the following Board members the year's work began: Mmes. F. Logan Porter, Sr., Vice-president; Theressa Foy Ingle, Secretary; B. S. Cummings, Treasurer; George Stephens, Secretary of Spiritual Life; and Charles W. Perry, Secretary Pastor's Aid.

A new church home was being erected on North Main Street

and Shirley Avenue, and in the years report \$350 was reported as given to the New Church Building Fund, thirty-two family altars and thirty-four tithers were also reported, and a total amount of money received as \$3,259.00.

The year, 1928-1929, began in the beautiful new Church Home, with an entirely new group of officers: Mmes. F. Logan Porter, Sr., President; C. C. Garrett, Vice-president; Williamson Mills, Secretary; A. E. Taplin, Treasurer; Secretary of Spiritual Life, George Stephens; and Secretary Pastor's Aid, Theresa Foy Ingle.

Moving to the new Church called for changes in the old order of things. Many changes were made. Mrs. Bertha Snow Barbee had been privileged, in the past to place flowers in the sanctuary each Sunday, because of her desire to do so, and because she lived right across the street from the church. Mrs. Porter recognized the fact that Mrs. Barbee lived quite a distance from the new church, so she appointed as Flower Chairman, Mrs. Charles W. Perry. Mrs. Perry was to make a list of the different circles and assign a Sunday to them to help Mrs. Barbee get her flowers to the church, or find flowers for her if she did not have them.

At the close of the year the annual report showed an increase in the Church's Spiritual Life, there were forty family altars, fifty tithers, three prayer bands, and a treasurers report of \$3,632 paid in for the year.

Things had gone along so smoothly under the leadership of Mrs. Porter, that at the close of the year she was urged to continue as President of the Auxiliary. Orange Presbyterial was going to meet with the Church the following spring and it was necessary to have such a leader. Mrs. Porter agreed to continue in this office with the following officers: Mmes. A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Vice-president; W. A. Hayes, Secretary; C. H. Marriner, Treasurer; Theresa Foy Ingle, Secretary of Spiritual Life; and A. E. Taplin, Secretary Pastor's Aid.

Many worthwhile things were accomplished during this year and at the close of it the report showed that the whole Auxiliary considered itself a prayer band—praying each morning at nine o'clock—fifty copies of *The Church Calendar of Prayer* had been bought by the women, twenty-nine family altars, twenty-five tithers, and the financial report showed a total of \$3,980 had been received by the Treasurer.

Each new year brought its changes, but not always as drastic as the year 1930-1931. By the last of January The Reverend C. P. Coble

had preached his last sermon as Pastor of the Church, and in April The Reverend Charles Haddon Nabers, D.D., had become pastor of the Church. When Dr. Nabers became Pastor the following were officials of the Auxiliary: Mmes. Carter Dalton, President; A. E. Taplin, Vice-president; W. A. Hayes, Secretary; C. H. Marriner, Treasurer; R. K. Young, Secretary of Spiritual Life; and K. C. Denny—assisted by E. W. Holton—Secretary Pastor's Aid.

Perhaps one of the most outstanding things done during this year was the reception given honoring Dr. and Mrs. Nabers. At the close of the year's work the report showed forty-four tithers, thirty family altars, thirty-five new members added to the Auxiliary roll, thirty new members added to the Coble Circle, and the financial statement showed that there had been paid into the Treasurer \$3598.00, during the year.

The year 1931-1932, began with the following officers: Mmes. Charles W. Perry, President; Vernon Idol, Sr., Vice-president; Frank B. Smith, Secretary; Cecil H. Marriner, Treasurer; T. Wingate Andrews, Historian; F. Logan Porter, Sr., Secretary of Spiritual Life; and Kenneth C. Denny, Secretary Pastor's Aid.

With several additions and changes the women's work progressed. A new circle was added; a Historian was appointed; and for the first time envelopes were distributed by the Treasurer, to each Circle member in which to place their monthly pledges. It was also deemed wise to choose seven of the Cause Secretaries to better acquaint the women with the workings of their church, by having the Secretaries go to different Circle meetings each month.

In January a financial crash, of National magnitude, closed the doors of The Commercial National Bank, of High Point, with a large deposit of the Auxiliary's money in it.

At the close of the year the report recorded forty-one tithers, thirty-eight family altars, a prayer band composed of the Executive Board, and a financial statement showing that the receipts for the year had been \$3,240.00.

With the beginning of the year 1932-1933, there were many changes made in the Church. Dr. Nabers accepted a call to Greenville, South Carolina, and Dr. Joseph Rennie came to the Church as Supply Pastor. Amidst all of this change the following women took up the leadership of the Auxiliary: Mmes. John C. Abels, President; R. A. McPheeters, Vice-president; Frank B. Smith, Secretary; C. H. Marriner, Treasurer; W. G. Shipman, Historian; K. C. Denny,

Secretary of Spiritual Life; and Lamar McCallum, Secretary Pastor's Aid.

Of the many things accomplished by the women during the year the one which stands out as of prime importance is the cheerful assistance the women gave the men of the Church in that critical month of January, 1933. At this time the women gladly joined the ranks of the men in a great drive to raise \$8500 necessary to meet the obligations due on the Church debt. Two of the six divisions came from the women.

At the close of the year it was found there were forty-seven family altars, thirty-eight tithers, five prayer bands, and a total amount of \$3,133 had been paid into the treasury.

The arrival of the year 1933-1934, found the City, State, and Nation all feeling the results of the "Depression"; therefore it was important that efficient leaders be elected. Those elected were: Mmes. Theresa Foy Ingle (I. Paul), President; R. S. Lafferty, Vice-president; J. D. Ross, Secretary; F. C. Gomo, Treasurer; Charles W. Perry, Historian; K. C. Denny, Secretary of Spiritual Life; and G. W. Denny, Secretary Pastor's Aid.

This new year with its depressing financial conditions called for unusual efforts; so the bazaar idea was again introduced. From the time of this decision until December when it was held, the President and Chairman of Ways and Means, Mrs. R. K. Young, worked untiringly—making plans for it. It was then no surprise when the Bazaar was over, to find it had been a financial success.

In September before the Bazaar was held, the Auxiliary was shocked and deeply grieved over the untimely death of Mrs. F. C. Gomo, Treasurer. At this time her office needed to be filled, so Mrs. A. E. Taplin graciously volunteered to fill her unexpired term.

There were many outstanding things done during this year but perhaps the most outstanding was a gift to the Special Finance Committee of a check for \$1,125. In all, there passed through the Treasurer's hands during the year, \$2,850; there were twenty-five family altars, twenty tithers, and the whole Auxiliary was a Prayer Band.

The seventy-fifth year of the Church's life began with a promise of better financial conditions in the Nation, yet the High Point Church still felt the pinch of poverty. They chose as their leaders for this time Mmes. Frank B. Smith, President; R. S. Lafferty, Vice-president; P. H. Dalton, III, Secretary; A. E. Taplin, Treasurer;

Charles W. Perry, Historian; F. Logan Porter, Sr., Secretary of Spiritual Life; and George W. Denny, Secretary Pastor's Aid.

Early in the year a gift of a chest of one thousand pieces of silver was presented to the Church from a friend of Mr. Frank Wineskie's.

The term of office for Mrs. Frank B. Smith is incomplete, for it is now only September 24, 1934. The year is young and there are perhaps the most noteworthy accomplishments to follow, but to date the most outstanding things accomplished during the year are: the presentation of the Pastors' Portraits to the Church by Mrs. Hayes' Circle, the sponsoring of the Seventy-fifth Birthday Celebration of the Church, and the writing of the Church History, for the first seventy-five years.

During the past seventy-five years the women of the Church have served faithfully and well—to you who are to follow they say: "We charge you—guard well the traditions of the past, keeping ever before you the standards we have maintained—ever holding high the torch we now throw you from failing hands, and always follow the gleam—the gleam that through you may light the world."



PART TWO

HISTORY OF PAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

1934 - 1959

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

High Point, North Carolina

Written and compiled by

OCTAVIA JORDAN PERRY

Assisted by her husband, Charles W. Perry

and the following members:

Noble T. Praigg

J. W. Southerland

R. Frank Dalton

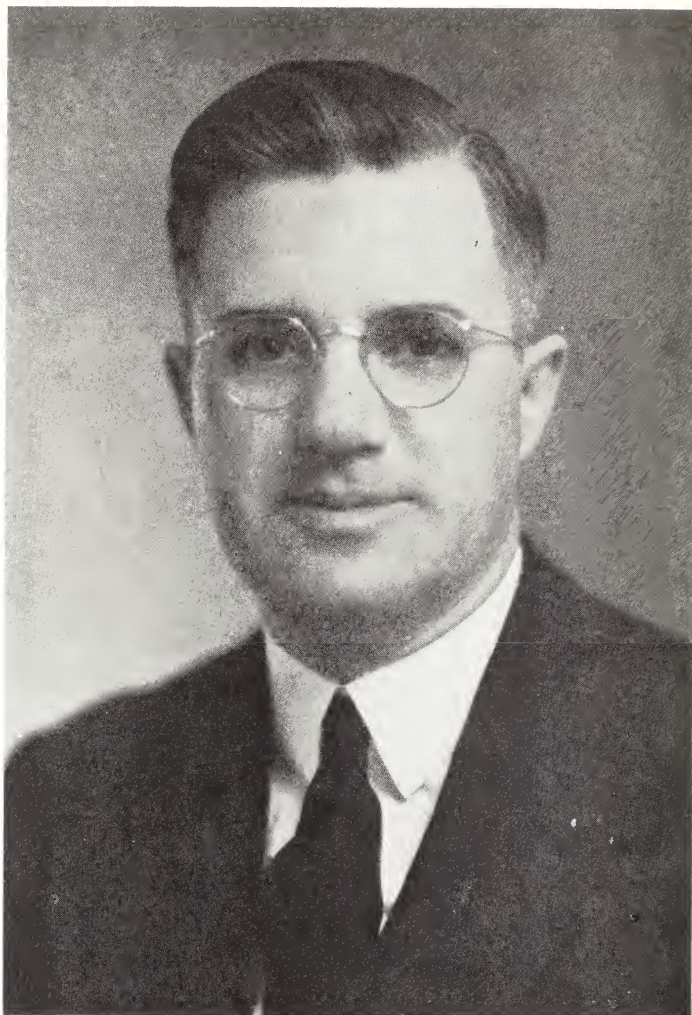
Dr. A. B. Croom

David Pancoast

Ernestine Hayes Dallas

Florence and John Womack





THE REVEREND ORIN CONWAY WILLIAMSON, D.D.

CHAPTER XVII

PASTORATE OF

THE REVEREND ORIN CONWAY WILLIAMSON, D.D.

The Church's indebtedness to the Lorenzo E. Anderson Bonding Company had been settled previously in full, but it had been necessary to secure a sizeable loan from the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company. There would be other indebtedness items coming up soon for readjustment. Things still did not look too good, and fear prevailed among the Church members that the heavy indebtedness it was under would be a real drawback in securing a pastor.

On February 9, 1936, the Pulpit Committee brought Dr. Orin Conway Williamson, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Alexandria, Louisiana, to the Church pulpit to preach a trial sermon. The text of his sermon was *Tried As By Fire*. During the afternoon, of that same day, Deacon and Mrs. C. C. Garrett held Open House so that all of the officers of the Church might meet him.

Dr. Williamson was warmly received by the membership of the Church, and at a congregational meeting held soon after he had returned to Louisiana, he was given a unanimous call to become Pastor of The First Presbyterian Church of High Point, N. C.

From the time the call was extended to Dr. Williamson the congregation eagerly awaited an answer from him. He accepted the call with the full knowledge of the Church's indebtedness—to him this debt was a challenge. After he had accepted the call the congregation just as eagerly awaited the arrival of the Williamson family.

By Easter Sunday, April 12, 1936, Dr. Williamson, his wife and two sons were living in the manse, and as pastor of the Church he preached his first sermon on that same day. Joy was expressed on the faces of the congregation and the Church Bulletin carried the following:

"It seems entirely appropriate that Dr. Williamson assumes our pastorate this Easter morning. And, just as Christ's Resurrection, which we celebrate today, brought joy, and hope, and faith, and courage to the world, so may Dr. Williamson's coming be an inspiration and blessing to our Church. May this pastorate prove the be-

ginning of a new era of love, of loyalty, and of wide Spiritual awakening for us all."

At the meeting of Orange Presbytery held in April, 1936, at Sanford, N. C., Dr. Williamson was received into the Presbytery and his installation services were set for Sunday May 3, 1936. The Reverend M. S. Huske of Riedsville was named Chairman of the installation Commission, to preside and preach the sermon. The Reverend N. N. Flemming, of Hawfields Presbyterian Church to charge the Pastor; Elder Sam White, of Mebane to charge the congregation; and The Reverend S. M. Rankin, of Greensboro, alternate to complete the Commission.

At the time Dr. Williamson took up his pastorate at the High Point Church, Elder W. A. Hayes was Clerk of the Session; Frank Wineskie was Chairman of the Diaconate; Harold M. White was Chairman of the Associate Board of Deacons; Harry A. Alexander was Church Treasurer; Lamar McCallum was Superintendent of the Sunday School; Mrs. Hunter Dalton, III., was President of the Woman's Auxiliary; and Mrs. Dennis H. Hall, Jr., was Chairman of the Young People's Council. The Church membership was 725, but was forever fluctuating, due to the conditions of the times. Failures in business, and transfers to posts of duty in other towns had moved several of the Church officers from the city.

At the annual meeting of the Diaconate held in April, 1936, Mr. G. E. Hutchens was elected Vice-Chairman to replace Deacon R. A. McPheeters, who had moved to Richmond, Virginia. At this same meeting the Diaconate decided that the Limited Term System, they had previously adopted, was not working satisfactorily. The plan did not carry the compulsory one year lay off of deacons after they had served their term. The Board then voted to request the Session to discontinue the Limited Term Plan for the deacons.

A congregation meeting was duly called and held on Sunday, May 17, 1936. At this meeting Elder Carter Dalton was elected Trustee of the Church to succeed Deacon R. A. McPheeters, and the following deacons were elected: M. A. Temple, S. H. Denny, J. Sanders Dallas, George L. Rankin, Harry A. Alexander, J. Paul Williamson, Hazel P. Hardin, D. Waring Smith, C. E. Lehmann, and Hobert Bryant.

In the June 21, 1936, bulletin the new list of the appointed Associate Deacons read as follows: Vance McCormick, D. H. Hall, Jr.,

F. L. Babcock, Boyd Stout, E. A. McCall, P. S. Mason, J. C. Kaneer, Julian Franklin, Arthur Dickens, and David H. Andrews.

Sometime during the early part of the month of June, Elder Carter Dalton had the idea that the church needed a monthly publication that would bring to the congregation the Church news. He suggested to the Men's Club that they publish such an organ and call it *The Blue Stocking*. The Men's Club voted to sponsor this publication and by July a copy of it was put into the hands of each member of the congregation.

On Sunday, July 15, 1936, the congregation welcomed Miss Pauline Ribelin, formerly of Albemarle, N. C., a graduate of Montreat College and a local Business College, as full time Church Secretary. The services of Miss Ribelin had been made possible through the generosity of a group of the officers of the Church, with no cost to the congregation.

With the beginning of Summer the Session voted to discontinue Prayer Meeting until September and to join the other Main Street Churches in Union Services on Sunday evenings. On July 12, 1936, the first such meeting was held.

Early in September Dr. Williamson discussed with the Session his desire for a Revival Service to be conducted in the Church beginning October 21 and continuing on through November 1, with Dr. D. T. Caldwell of Petersburg, Virginia, conducting the services. This request was approved and a successful meeting was held.

A short time after Dr. Williamson came to the Church, Elder E. C. Holden began talking with him about a Mission Sunday School. Dr. Williamson was interested so he and his wife, Elder Holden, Mrs. Holden, and Harry L. Brown, began looking around for the most likely section of the city in which to start an Out-Post Sunday School. Following a thorough survey it was decided that the Brentwood section was the place. After this locality was decided upon, it was necessary to have a building in which Sunday School could be conducted. Nothing was available, that the Committee could afford to rent, but a dilapidated little one room store building on the South side of East Green Street. This place appeared impossible to any one but those who had caught the vision. It was rented and Dr. and Mrs. Williamson, the Holdens, Mr. Harry L. Brown, Mr. E. M. Foster, and Mr. E. R. Clodfelter bought paint and painted it.

With its new coat of paint the little store building was all ready for the first meeting of the Out-Post Sunday School of the First

Presbyterian Church on the afternoon of Sunday, November 8, 1936, with Mr. Harry L. Brown, Superintendent; Dr. E. C. Holden, Teacher of Adults; and Mr. Fred Bartlett, Teacher of Young People. For this opening meeting there was an excellent attendance. The sponsoring committee was highly pleased, so their determination to make it into a church some day was strengthened.

At the annual meeting of the Board of Deacons held in April, 1937, Messrs. George E. Hutchens was named Chairman; S. H. Denny, Vice-chairman; and H. M. White, Church Treasurer.

About this same time the Associate Board of Deacons held its annual election of officers and reported to the Diaconate that they had elected, Messrs. J. Carl Kaneer, Chairman; E. R. Clodfelter, Vice-chairman; and C. M. Thomas, Secretary-Treasurer.

On April 15, 1937, the Fortieth Annual Meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary of Orange Presbytery, was held in the High Point Church. This meeting of the women had hardly adjourned, when it became inevitable that another canvas of the Church membership was going to have to be made. Funds must be raised to make a financial settlement with the Virginia Trust Company, which would fall due on June 8, 1937.

Neither an individual or a church, under the burden of heavy debt, can be at its best. Dr. Williamson was vitally interested in all of the Church's affairs—so interested in them, that he considered the church's debt almost a personal one. "This money must be raised," he said, so he dedicated himself both prayerfully and physically to raising the needed amount.

The debt due the Virginia Trust Company, had originally been a loan of \$100,000, for a period of two years, personally endorsed by fifteen of the Church officers. It had not been paid in its entirety and was still a sizeable debt. The endorsers of the note had grown disgruntled, and justly so, for each individual endorser was personally responsible for the full amount the Church owed the Virginia Trust Company.

The Church was not able to meet the financial requirement specified by the Virginia Trust Company, so a special committee, composed of Messrs. George E. Hutchens, H. M. White, and Charles W. Perry were named to contact the Trust Company and find out what arrangements could be made for a settlement. Dr. O. C. Williamson, George E. Hutchens and Charles W. Perry went to Rich-

mond for an interview with Mr. Jackson, the President of the Virginia Trust Company. They found President Jackson adamant—a former Church Committee had infuriated Mr. Jackson and he was not willing to listen to any kind of arrangement with the Church other than full payment of the Church's indebtedness. When told the Church could not pay it all at this time he stated that he could get it—he could sue any one of the individual endorsers and get the whole amount due that way. Dr. Williamson then called to Mr. Jackson's attention that this debt was not that of any one church member. Then he appealed to Mr. Jackson to just give the Church another chance—all it was asking was additional time to raise the required money. Mr. Jackson would not listen to reason, so the committee returned to High Point.

In a few days Mr. Hutchens went back to Richmond, Virginia by himself, and after several attempts got the ear of Mr. Charlie Watkins, one of the Vice-presidents of the Trust Company. Mr. Watkins agreed to try and change President Jackson's attitude towards the High Point Church loan.

After seven visits by Dr. Williamson, and Mr. Hutchens, accompanied at different times by Messrs. Carter Dalton, Frank Wineskie, Paul Engle, Paul Williamson, and Charles W. Perry, a settlement with the Virginia Trust Company was worked out. The Church was to pay \$36,000.00 in cash and the Trust Company was to take a mortgage on that part of the South Main Street lot that had not been sold—a mortgage until it could be sold. This mortgage was to be secured by limited personal endorsements of fifty of the church members. This was done and the original fifteen endorsers were released from their personal responsibility.

The June 20, 1937, Bulletin carried: "It gives us a great deal of pleasure to announce that on last Thursday a check was mailed the Virginia Trust Company, Richmond, Virginia, for \$32,656.75. Another \$3,000 due them is to be secured from the sale of property and stock, and the money from the sale sent to them shortly. When this is done, all of the fifteen endorsers who have so patiently borne the burden for the church during the past several years will have been entirely released from all further personal responsibility. This readjustment of our church debt is an occasion of great joy to our whole congregation. We wish to call attention to the fact that no compromise was made. We feel that a great load has been lifted and that the Church will now go forward in a more splendid way. Among those who had a leading part in the working out of this sit-

uation are George E. Hutchens, Chairman of the Board of Deacons; H. M. White, Treasurer; and Charles W. Perry. These three have labored incessantly at a great sacrifice of time and neglect to their own businesses, and to them is largely due the success of the undertaking. In addition to these should be mentioned Carter Dalton, Frank Wineskie, Paul Ingle, and Paul Williamson."

While the original fifteen personal endorsers had been released by the partial payment of the note, it was necessary to give the Trust Company another note for \$10,000, secured by notes from fifty members of the Church limiting their personal responsibilities.

During the remainder of the Church year, 1937, a great many things of interest and importance happened in the Church. Mrs. S. H. Askew came and taught the Epistles to the Ephesians to the women; a Revival Service was conducted at the Brentwood Mission, with The Reverend Davenport as Evangelist; and on December 5, one of the greatly beloved former pastors, The Reverend Charles P. Coble, came as guest minister and preached at the morning service.

With the coming of the year, 1938, the spectre of debt again haunted the Church. In the January 10 bulletin of that year we read that those delinquent in their pledges are urged to pay up so the payment due on the Church's debt to the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company can be met.

Again early in the summer the bulletin again carried a plea: "Due to the necessity of raising approximately \$1,800.00, with which to meet an interest payment on the Church's debt, to the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company, all members are urged to make an effort to pay their pledges up to date—prior to August 10, 1938."

Near the first of July, Miss Pauline Ribelin tendered her resignation as Church Secretary, to the Session, asking to be released so she could enter the Assembly's Training School at Richmond, Virginia, on September 15, 1938.

Miss Jeanette Bounous of Valdese, N. C., a graduate of Mitchell College, Statesville, and the Assembly's Training School, Richmond, Virginia, decided to accept the Church's offer to come to it as Director of Religious Education.

A picnic supper, honoring both Miss Ribelin and Miss Bounous was held on the Church lawn on the evening of September 14. After the supper Mr. Frank Wineskie showed the slides he had taken on his recent European travels.

For ten days of the month of September, 1938, Dr. Williamson was absent from the Church Pulpit, conducting a Revival Service at the Rocky River Presbyterian Church. When he returned a Revival Service was started in this church beginning November 6, and lasting through November 13. The Evangelist for this service was The Reverend John R. Williams of Atlanta, Georgia.

On December 3-4, 1938, the Young People's Council of Orange Presbytery, held its Mid-Winter meeting in the High Point Church.

By announcement from the Session, on January 19, 1939, the hour for the Evening Service was changed from 7:30 to 5:00 o'clock in order to enable Dr. Williamson to fill the pulpit at Brentwood Mission at 7:00 o'clock.

Early in the year 1939, the Woman's Auxiliary published a new Church Directory. About this same time Professor Dan W. Smith organized a Junior Choir of boys and girls of the fourth and fifth grade age. With thirty-one members in this choir it made its first public appearance on April 9, 1939.

When it came time for the Church's Every-Member-Canvass, in 1939, the deacons had a new idea as to how it should be conducted. They invited the church membership to go to the Ladies' Parlor, or Gleaner's Room, immediately after the morning worship on March 12, and make their pledge for the church year. This plan worked, making the canvassing job much easier on the canvassers.

In April, 1939, the Church debt was again before the congregation. This time it was our indebtedness to the defunct Commercial National Bank. A special finance committee was named, composed of George E. Hutchens, Frank Wineskie, and Samuel E. Tucker.

This debt was unknown to the membership at large—known only to Church officers and the seven endorsers who had endorsed a note Mr. J. E. Marsh had given the Commercial National Bank as collateral, when he had bought part of the original South Main Street property. These endorsers were: G. W. Denny, Kenneth C. Denny, W. E. Snow, Rodney Snow, C. C. Garrett, Frank Wineskie, and Dr. W. A. Hayes.

Without the Church's knowledge, when Mr. Marsh failed to meet the note the lot had been put up by the bank Receiver and sold for less money than had been borrowed. Mr. Biggs, receiver for the Bank was demanding that the endorsers pay the remainder of the indebtedness in full

The Church in its recent transaction with the Virginia Trust Company, had literally scraped bottom. There was no known money to be had; however, there was nothing to do but put on a concentrated drive.

This Special Finance Committee called for the workers for this special drive to meet at the Church for a supper meeting on April 16, 1939. At this meeting the officials who were to conduct this drive on April 18, were named. Dr. O. C. Williamson, Commanding General; George E. Hutchens, Chief of Staff; H. M. White, Finance Officer; and seven Colonels; F. Logan Porter, Sr., H. P. Hardin, S. H. Denny, R. B. Terry, R. B. Gantt, Mrs. P. H. Dalton, III, and Mrs. W. W. Lentz.

When the drive was over, Dr. Williamson and Mr. Hutchens went to see Mr. Biggs, and laid the Church's situation before him—\$22,500.00 was all that the Church had been able to raise. They asked him to accept the amount raised in full payment and release the seven endorsers.

Mr. Biggs was tough and said, "The Church will pay the entire amount due—I have a way of getting it you know."

Dr. Williamson and Mr. Hutchens were stunned at the attitude Mr. Biggs had taken. They could not afford to let the individual endorsers be sued for the Church's indebtedness.

After many thoughtful hours Mr. Hutchens finally came up with an idea. The Commercial Bank had been a National Bank. It had long been Mr. Hutchens's policy to start at the top of a project. It was easier to get kicked down the steps than up them—sometimes one got stopped before he was all the way up. He would go direct to the Comptroller of Currency and see what could be done. He knew that the Comptroller was Mr. Delano, a cousin of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. There must be some way he could get an audience with him. It would have to come through the U. S. State Senator, Mr. Simmons, but he didn't know Senator Simmons. He remembered that Mr. R. B. Terry did. He appealed to Mr. Terry. Mr. Terry called Senator Simmons and made an appointment with him for Dr. Williamson and Mr. Hutchens. Senator Simmons got the coveted audience with Comptroller Delano for them.

Soon after Mr. Hutchens and Dr. Williamson were in the Comptroller's office, Mr. Hutchens started out with his story. When he was about half through, Comptroller Delano raised his hand and said, "That's enough, I don't need to hear the rest."

Mr. Hutchens looked at him for a moment and then said, "But it's on my mind and I need to get it off."

Comptroller Delano courteously listened to the rest of the story and when it was finished he had a deputy call Mr. Biggs and tell him to accept the \$22,500.00 the Church had raised, as payment in full for the debt which was approximately \$37,000.00.

In the June 18, 1939, bulletin, Dr. Williamson says, "In humble gratitude to the Giver of All Good Gifts, we announce the successful completion of our campaign to pay off the debt to The Commercial National Bank. To do this however, it has been necessary for one of the church officers (George E. Hutchens) to personally borrow \$1,000.00 against post-dated and unpaid pledges, but we are sure this will be taken care of as soon as possible."

On June 29, 1939, the legal financial transaction with the Receiver of The Commercial National Bank was completed. With this payment the total amount of cash raised within the past two years, to be applied on the principal of the Church's debt, was \$59,000.00. But, due to the concessions made by the Comptroller of Currency, in regard to the money owed the defunct Commercial National Bank, this has enabled the Church's indebtedness to be reduced over \$71,000.00.

To celebrate the success of this recent campaign, a picnic for the entire Church membership, was held June 30, 1939, on the lawn of the George E. Hutchen's Estate.

On May 7, 1939, prior to the great financial drive, an announcement was made that Miss Lucille Johnson had been elected to the Board of Regents of Barium Springs, and that Mr. I. Paul Ingle had been named to the Board of Trustees of the Glade Valley High School.

At a congregational meeting held on April 30, 1939, the following new elders were added to the Session: Dennis H. Hall, Jr., Harry L. Brown, Frank Wineskie, C. G. Garrett, and Charles W. Perry.

Besides reducing the Church's indebtedness during the first three years of Dr. Williamson's Pastorate, there had been a great increase in the number of members on the Church Roll—two hundred new names had been added, bringing the total church membership to well over eight hundred. The Sunday School had flourished under the leadership of the Director of Religious Education, Miss Jeanette Bounous, and Superintendent J. D. Ross, and had early in the year been departmentalized.

Because Dr. Williamson spoke Spanish fluently, he was asked to serve as Protestant Chaplain on a Caribbean cruise, of the German Liner, *Columbus*. During his vacation on August 17, 1939, he sailed from the New York Harbor. All went well on this cruise until the return trip. Then, due to the threat of war in Europe, his boat was detained in Havana, Cuba. There the passengers were transferred to the P. and O. Liner *Florida* and Dr. Williamson arrived safely back in High Point, N. C., just a week later than he was scheduled—this German boat *Columbus* was scuttled by its own crew in December of that same year.

In October Miss Bounous, the Director of Religious Education, was married to Mr. Wilson Bigham, and on November 15, 1939, she terminated her services with the Church.

At a congregational meeting held on November 19, 1939, the following deacons were elected: Harold M. Whites, Dan W. Smith, Henry V. Koonts, J. Carl Kaneer, George C. Connor, Sr., and R. M. Gladstone, Jr.

For a period of time after the resignation of Mrs. Bingham, to the arrival of Miss Amelie Hough, December 31, 1939, Miss Ava Neil Taylor assisted in the work of the Church office. The acceptance of the work as Church Secretary, and Young People's Worker in the Church, by Miss Hough, a graduate of the Assembly's Training School, in Richmond, Virginia, was indeed fortunate for the High Point Church, for under her capable leadership all of the Church's work grew.

Early in the year 1940, Charles W. Perry was named as Church Representative to the Mid-Winter meeting of Orange Presbytery. His prime assignment was to present a petition, signed by thirty members of the Brentwood Mission, requesting Presbytery to organize them into a church.

This request was granted, making this new church the first one to be organized in Orange Presbytery in more than eleven years. Elder Dennis H. Hall, Jr., of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, was appointed by Presbytery to be on the Commission to organize this church, on Sunday afternoon, March 3, 1940, at 2:30 o'clock.

After the organization of Brentwood, Dr. Williamson preached at the Church weekly until The Reverend J. P. H. McNatt was called as its pastor.

On February 5, 1940, at a meeting of the Diaconate, Sam H. Denny was elected Chairman; D. E. Headen, Vice-chairman; G. L. Rankin, Secretary; Harry A. Alexander, Assistant Secretary; H. M. White, Church Treasurer; and Henry V. Koonts, Chairman of the Finance Committee and Every-Member-Canvass.

At the Annual Meeting of The Associate Board of Deacons the following officers were named: J. Frank Carricker, Chairman; Julian Franklin, Vice-chairman; and J. E. Beeson, Secretary-Treasurer.

The Church year, 1939-1940, was an eventful one. Besides the organization of the Brentwood Church a great many other things of interest happened during the year. The Executive Board of Orange Presbyterial with forty women representing the fifty-six Auxiliaries of the Presbyterial, met in the High Point Church on February 13, 1940.

This same year Dr. Williamson held the first Pre-Easter Service ever recorded in the Church. This observance was in the form of a series of services held at 7:30 o'clock, in the sanctuary, every evening through Friday preceeding Easter Sunday. At these services Frank Tucker was in charge of the congregational singing, and Professor Dan W. Smith was at the organ.

The week end of March 3, 1940, was indeed a happy occasion for the High Point Church, for it had as its guests Mrs. Alma Headen Jackson—one of our very own number—Missionary to Africa, with her Missionary husband The Reverend James L. Jackson, and their three children. The Reverend Jackson was guest minister and he preached at the Sunday morning service.

On Monday afternoon, March 4, a Tea was given by the Woman's Auxiliary, honoring the Jacksons, at the home of Elder and Mrs. W. A. Hayes.

Beginning with the new church year, in April, 1940, a Flower Committee, composed of Mrs. Charles W. Perry, Chairman; Mrs. W. A. Hayes, and Mrs. O. C. Williamson was named. The prime duty of this committee was to make a flower chart and weekly remind the person responsible for furnishing flowers in the sanctuary.

After this annual meeting in April, 1940, the Associate Board of Deacons reported their officers for the new year were: Davis H. Smith, Chairman; Julian Franklin, Vice Chairman; and Vance McCormick, Secretary-Treasurer.

The large white oak tree, on the front lawn of the church, had

for a long time been making a desperate fight for its life. It was not looking so well. Mrs. Williamson talked with a tree surgeon. He thought a treatment, if administered right away, might save it. She appealed to the Diaconate and the tree was treated. The tree was treated all right but Dr. W. A. Hayes was not sure it wouldn't die—not to have any shade trees on the church lawn bothered him. He planted several willow oak trees on the lawn, which he brought in from his farm out beyond Cedrow Avenue.

On August 11, 1940, Dr. Williamson exchanged pulpits with The Reverend W. H. Currie of the First Presbyterian Church of Belmont, N. C., and the following spring The Reverend Currie held a series of Evangelistic Services in the High Point Church.

On May 3, 1940, Miss Pauline Ribelin graduated from the Assembly Training School, Richmond, Virginia, and was accepted by the Board of Foreign Missions, to go as a missionary on May 23, 1940. Soon after this she and Dr. Hervey Ross, a Missionary to Mexico, were married and she became a Mexican Missionary.

The one hundred and twenty-seventh session of the North Carolina Synod met with the High Point Church September 3-5, 1940. Financial difficulties again arose between the Church and the Virginia Trust Company. As promised the South Main Street property was subdivided and sold in six parts, grossing \$42,000.00. Mr. Charlie Watkins, Vice-president of the Virginia Trust Company attended the sale and was greatly disappointed over the price it brought—the amount netted at the sale would not nearly cover the indebtedness to his Trust Company.

After the morning service on September 22, 1940, a congregational meeting was held to ratify the sale of the South Main Street property.

On October 25, 1940, Deacons G. E. Hutchens, and Henry V. Koonts went to Richmond and had a conference with the Virginia Trust Company. On their return to High Point they requested a supper meeting of all of the limited endorsers on the notes to the Virginia Trust Company, in connection with the South Main Street property. This meeting was to consider a plan for the complete retirement of the indebtedness to the Trust Company. It was held and at the meeting it was decided that the men individually pay 25% of the note they had pledged as security and that a second mortgage be placed on the North Main Street Church for the balance of the loan, which was \$25,000.00. This loan to be obtained from the Jefferson

Standard Life Insurance Company, by increasing the loan it had previously made to the Church.

On Saturday, October 19, 1940, a trip which had been planned by Mr. I. Paul Ingle, Trustee of the Glade Valley High School, was made to the school. Dr. and Mrs. Williamson, along with a group of interested church members made this trip.

At the Annual Meeting of the Deacons, held in 1941, the following officers were named: Donald E. Headen, Chairman; Henry V. Koonts, Vice-chairman; W. M. Currie, Secretary; and Harold M. White, Church Treasurer.

The Associate Board of Deacons, about this time named: Davis H. Smith, Chairman; Vance McCormick, Vice-chairman; and E. H. McCall, Secretary-Treasurer.

The High Point Church seemed to be a likely place for meetings of the different organizations of Orange Presbytery. On April 5, 1941, the spring rally of Orange Presbytery's Young People was held in the Church, and on October 4 of this same year the Business Woman's Conference of Orange Presbyterial was held in High Point.

In June, 1941, Mr. Warren Gaw, a ministerial student at the Louisville, Kentucky Seminary, came to High Point to assist Dr. Williamson with the work at Brentwood, and to fill the First Church Pulpit while Dr. Williamson was on his vacation.

On January 13, 1942, Orange Presbytery met in High Point. Elder W. A. Hayes was the Church's Representative, and Elder Carter Dalton read a brief history of the Church, which he had written.

In June, 1942, Mr. Sidney Crane, a rising senior at the Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia, came to High Point to assist Dr. Williamson with the work at Brentwood, and to fill the First Church Pulpit, while Dr. Williamson was away on his vacation.

On April 9, 1943, Miss Hough resigned her work at the Church to go stay with her sick mother in Hastings, Florida. Mrs. Ray Hon then became acting Church Secretary, until Miss Ruth Webb, a graduate of the Assembly's Training School, came in June to be the Director of Religious Education.

In the month of May, 1943, Dr. and Mrs. Hervey Ross (Pauline Ribelin) were the Church's guests. Dr. Ross spoke to the Church membership at the Wednesday evening Prayer Meeting on May 19, and immediately afterwards the Auxiliary held Open-House honoring the Rosses.

Near the middle of the month of May, 1943, Mr. Orin Moore, Jr., of Charlotte, N. C., a rising junior at the Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia, came to the High Point Church to assist Dr. Williamson with the Brentwood Church work.

In August, 1943, W. F. Robinette became Treasurer of the Church as a successor to Harold M. White, and in October news of the death of a beloved pastor, Dr. Joseph Rennie, was received with deep sorrow.

For a period of several years, beginning with the first of the year, 1943, the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company had been writing letters concerning past due payments and accrued interest on the loan they had made the Church. Financially the Church was at a low ebb. Many times George E. Hutchens and Henry V. Koonts went to see President Price and wrote him letters, trying to make it clear that the Church would gladly make these payments as soon as it was possible to raise the money. Instead of these visits by Mr. Koonts and Mr. Hutchens helping, it seemed to irritate President Price and hard-boiled, almost insulting letters began coming to the Church about the indebtedness.

There was a way—Mr. Hutchens was sure there was—a bank somewhere that would loan the Church what money it needed. He went to the Wachovia Bank and asked Mr. A. M. Utley if the Church could get a loan of \$50,000.00, to be paid off in three or four years. Mr. Utley was sympathetic and on October 15, 1943, such a loan had been arranged bearing at 4% interest instead of 6% the Jefferson Standard was charging on their loan. But, when Mr. Hutchens and Mr. Koonts went to pay off the loan to the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company it was found that there was an extra charge, a penalty of \$1,600.00 for paying it off ahead of time. There was a struggle to raise this extra \$1,600.00 but it was raised, and by the beginning of the year, 1944, the Church was indebted only to the Wachovia Bank and Trust Co.

In November, 1943, the burden of the responsibility of the pastorate of the Brentwood Church was transferred from the shoulders of Dr. Williamson to those of The Reverend J. P. H. McNutt, who had accepted a call to be Pastor of it.

On December 12, 1943, the Congregation voted for both the elders and deacons to go on the Limited Term Plan, with a compulsory lay off period of one year, before they could be re-elected. From a list of thirty names the following elders were elected: Class

of 1945: Carter Dalton, D. E. Headen, C. C. Garrett, G. L. Rankin, and G. W. Denny. Class of 1946: Harry L. Brown, Frank B. Smith, Sr., Dr. H. L. Brockmann, C. E. Stuart, and Charles W. Perry. Class of 1947: Frank Wineskie, Z. I. Walser, I. Paul Ingle, Sr., F. Logan Porter, Sr., and Dr. W. A. Hayes.

At a congregational meeting held on January 23, 1944, thirty deacons were elected from a list of fifty names: Class of 1945: A. M. Rankin, Jr., J. Carl Kaneer, M. E. Brown, D. W. Hunter, J. D. Ross, V. W. Idol, Jr., George Connor, Sr., J. S. Dallas, C. M. Garrison, and Henry V. Koonts. Class of 1946: Dan W. Smith, J. P. Williamson, C. A. McMurray, F. F. Wilhite, C. D. Deans, H. A. Alexander, Sr., R. D. Tilson, E. M. Shipman, H. P. Hardin, and W. F. Robinette. Class of 1947: S. L. Rodenbough, Kenneth Redman, P. H. Dalton, III, H. P. Morrison, P. H. Mason, C. M. Allred, J. E. Beeson, F. F. Dickson, George E. Hutchens, and D. Waring Smith.

On February 5, 1944, Mr. George Washington Denny, an elder in the Church was called to his eternal home. He was one of the fifteen signers of the note, which helped stabilize the debt on our beautiful church home.

Near the beginning of the new Church year—1944-1945, Miss Ruth Webb, Director of Religious Education, resigned to take effect July 1. Miss Sue McLeod, of Monroe, N. C., was secured to take her place as Church Secretary, and began her work on the first of July, 1944.

A part of a letter the Board of Deacons mailed out to the Congregation just prior to the end of the Church Year, March 31, 1944, reads as follows:

"We are grateful for the faithful and generous support of members and friends which has enabled us to reduce the principal indebtedness by \$25,000 and to pay all interest to date on the remaining \$50,000. When the pledges for this year are paid, as they are being paid, all current obligations and the Benevolent Apportionment can be paid in full, and we shall be ready to start the new Church year with a clean slate. Not since we have been worshipping in the present building, have we closed a Church Year in as good financial position."

On June 25, 1944, Dr. Williamson was stricken with a slight stroke. For a short time he was absent from the pulpit, but with the prevailing prayers of his congregation, and his good wife, he strug-

gled back to partial good health, and on September 10, 1944, again was in the church pulpit. For several weeks after this he continued to fill his pulpit, but soon he realized that he was physically unable to carry on the heavy duties as minister of the High Point Church.

With Dr. Williamson sick it had been necessary to name a Moderator Protem to preside over the Session meetings, and see that a minister was in the pulpit each Sunday. Charles W. Perry was named by the Session to this office.

Early in October, 1944, Dr. Williamson heeded the advice of doctors and his wife, and asked for a release from his pastoral duties at the High Point Church, so that he might take up a lighter work to which he had been called, at Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church, in Mecklenburg Presbytery near Charlotte, N. C.

On October 15, 1944, at a congregational meeting the Congregation reluctantly voted to grant Dr. Williamson's request. At this same meeting it also named the following Pulpit Committee to find a successor to Dr. Williamson: Charles W. Perry, Chairman; D. E. Headen, Vice-chairman; Henry V. Koonts, C. E. Stuart, H. P. Morrison, and Mrs. H. P. Hardin, and Mrs. R. D. Tilson.

Also a Pulpit Supply Committee was elected as follows: Dr. W. A. Hayes, Chairman; Z. I. Walser, and Frank B. Smith to have a minister in the pulpit each Sunday until a regular Pastor is obtained.

The following is a letter Dr. Williamson wrote, October 26, 1944, to the congregation before he preached his final sermon in the Church:

"Dear Friends:

Next Sunday, October 29th, will close my ministry with you. I hope you will be present to hear my closing message. The last eight and one-half years have been very pleasant ones. We are grateful to you for your many kindnesses and splendid co-operation. I trust you will build on the foundation that has been laid, and go on to greater achievements in the Master's work in the future. My prayers and best wishes will always be with you.

"We are very happy in the place the Lord has called us, and look forward to a pleasant pastorate at Cook's Memorial. After the middle of November our address will be Route 9, Charlotte, N. C.

Yours in the Master's Service,

O. C. Williamson"

On October 29, 1944, Dr. Williamson preached his last sermon, as pastor of this Church—*A Prayer For The Future*.

Dr. Orin Conway Williamson was a big man both spiritually and physically—able to walk with the great and near-great, yet he knew how to do menial tasks for His Master, when no one else could be found to do them. He did not know how to say no when His Lord's work was involved—he literally wore himself out carrying the burden of the Church's debt, along with the Pastoral duties of the Church, and added pastoral duties of the Brentwood Church.

Resolution of Appreciation by Board of Deacons, November 6, 1944:

"For eight and one-half years, Dr. O. C. Williamson has served the First Presbyterian Church of High Point.

"As a faithful servant of God, he has been a constant comfort to those who sorrow; he has been a source of encouragement to those who needed Christian help; he has been a force for God in the community; he has discharged his duties both to God and to the congregation of the Church.

"WHEREAS: During his pastorate and under and largely because of Dr. Williamson's leadership and personal efforts, 202 individuals have become members of the First Presbyterian Church on Confession of Faith and 448 members have been received by presentation of letters.

"WHEREAS: During his pastorate and under and largely because of Dr. Williamson's leadership, the indebtedness of the First Presbyterian Church has been reduced by over \$200,000.00.

"WHEREAS: During his pastorate and under and largely because of Dr. Williamson's leadership and personal efforts, for the first time in the history of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, a Mission Church—Brentwood—was established and is now self-sustaining.

"Now, therefore, let us resolve together in earnest prayer that God's richest blessings abide upon Dr. and Mrs. O. C. Williamson, His faithful servants, as they enter upon a new work in the Master's name."

BIOGRAPHY OF
THE REVEREND ORIN CONWAY WILLIAMSON, D.D.
1893 - 1951

Orin Conway Williamson, D.D., the son of Mary Clark and Logan Wallace Williamson, was born into a devoutly religious and loving home, in the Steel Creek Community of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, on May 29, 1893. There were four other children in this home: The Reverend D. Lee Williamson, Missionary to Brazil; three sisters, Mrs. George Leeper, of Parkton, N. C.; Mrs. D. A. Huffines, of Cameron, N. C.; and Miss Myrtle Williamson, an instructor in Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

Conway was a loyal Christian and early in life began taking part in all of the activities of the famous Old Steel Creek Presbyterian Church. After receiving his common and high school education in the community of his birth, he went to Davidson College. He entered this college as a candidate for the ministry in 1912. In 1914 his studies there were interrupted, but in the fall of 1916 he returned and in 1918 graduated with a B.A. degree. Then he had a short period of military service in World War I, before he entered the Union Theological Seminary at Richmond, Virginia. In 1921 he received a degree of B.D. from this institution.

On May 23, 1921, he was licensed and ordained to preach by the Mecklenburg Presbytery, and on July 15, 1921, was ordained by Albemarle Presbytery as a Foreign Missionary. Soon after his ordination, on July 18, 1921, he married his childhood sweetheart, Lois Faires, also of the Steel Creek Church Community, who accompanied him to Mexico. There she assisted him in his missionary work for the six years he served. To this union there were born two sons—Donald Clark, and Norval Faires.

In 1928, the Austin Seminary, at Austin, Texas, elected The Reverend O. C. Williamson instructor in the Spanish speaking department there, and he moved his family back to the States.

For five years he served as instructor in the Austin Seminary, as well as supply minister for the Presbyterian churches of Victoria and Cameron, Texas.

While at Austin Seminary, Davidson College, his alma mater, conferred the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him. In 1933, Dr. Williamson accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church at Alexandria, Louisiana, and was still serving there when he was called, in 1936, to the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, N. C. Some

of Dr. Williamson's most outstanding work was done during the eight years he served the High Point Church.

At the time he accepted the call to the High Point Church, it was struggling under the burden of heavy debt. Upon arriving in High Point, Dr. Williamson immediately put his shoulder to the wheel and under his leadership the debt was reduced more than \$200,000.

Besides helping reduce the debt Dr. Williamson started a mission which soon became the first church to be founded in Orange Presbytery in more than eleven years—Brentwood Presbyterian Church. He also served as the Chairman of the Religious Education Committee in the Synod of North Carolina.

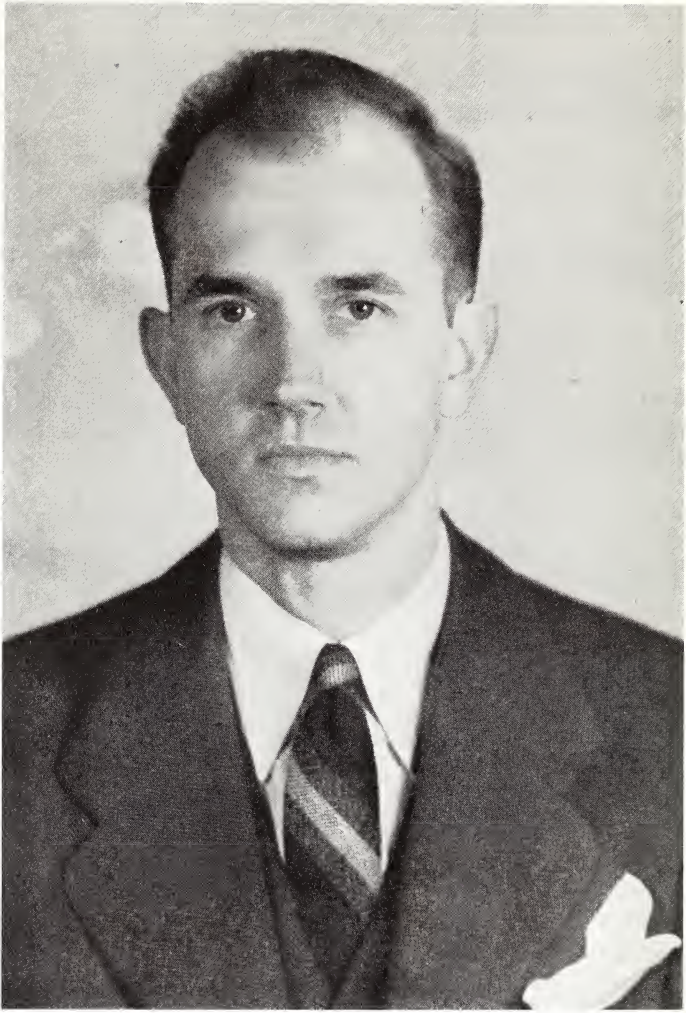
In the prime of life—in 1944, Dr. Williamson was suddenly stricken with a slight brain hemorrhage. At the advice of his physician, Dr. Williamson resigned from the High Point Church, Nov. 1, 1944, and under the guidance of God, became pastor of a smaller Church—Cook's Memorial, near Charlotte, N. C. Soon after he took up his work at this Church the Sunday School out-grew its facilities—an annex was built and the hut enlarged. The congregation then grew and the activities of it became so numerous that additional space was added.

In 1946, Dr. Williamson was named Moderator of the Synod of North Carolina, and about the same time Mecklenburg Presbytery invited him to take over Education and Relief Work in it. Dr. Williamson could not say no when his Master called. He accepted these responsibilities and later on shouldered other forms of service.

Dr. Williamson was still meeting the responsibilities he had undertaken, when, in the spring of 1951, his heart began to give way. He bravely accepted his fate and resigned himself to God's leadings.

On Friday, October 19, 1951, Dr. Williamson passed to his eternal reward, after an exhibition of patience, fortitude, and fidelity, and his remains were placed in the Steel Creek Cemetery—the cemetery of the church he had loved so well.

To those who did not understand Orin Conway Williamson, he was austere, but to those who did he was big spiritually, mentally, and physically, and a loyal and devoted friend, a loving pastor, a strong preacher of the Gospel, faithful to the Word, and a tower of strength in his church, Presbytery and Synod.



THE REVEREND PAUL TUDOR JONES, D.D.

CHAPTER XVIII

PASTORATE OF

THE REVEREND PAUL TUDOR JONES, D.D.

1945 - 1951

The Pulpit Committee, which was elected by the congregation on October 15, 1944, to locate a pastor and recommend him to the congregation, met the following Wednesday evening. At this first meeting of the Committee all members were present: Mrs. H. P. Hardin, Mrs. R. D. Tillson, Henry V. Koonst, Donald E. Headen, Charles W. Perry, C. E. Stuart, and Harold P. Morrison. Charles W. Perry was named Chairman of the Committee; Donald E. Headen, Vice-chairman; and Mrs. H. P. Hardin, Secretary. It was then agreed that since the primary function of this committee was to locate the proper man and recommend him to the Congregation, that each member of the committee should express his or her opinion, as to the type of minister that they thought was needed.

The first essential they agreed upon was that this minister should have proper training, experience, and be of such an age that would qualify him to head up a well rounded church program for all members—especial emphasis was laid upon the need of a minister who would be willing to cooperate in a full program for young people, and one who would have a sympathetic interest in the problems of returning servicemen and women.

Secondly, it was felt that this minister should be, not only a leader in the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, but a leader in the various Presbyterian Church courts. He should also be a man anxious to cooperate in the religious and civic life of the community.

Before the Pulpit Committee adjourned it was brought to their attention that the services of Miss Amelia Hough would be available again the first of January, 1945. The Committee discussed the vital need of such help in the Church at this time, and a motion was made to send a suggestion to the Church Officers that Miss Hough was available and to urge them to consider securing her services—this of course, with the understanding that any arrangements made with her would not be binding, if her services were not agreeable to the new pastor.

Since the limited term plan, or rotary system for the Officers of the Church had been adopted, it seemed that the election of them was coming up mighty often. On February 25, 1945, Dr. Walter L. Lingle ordained and installed G. E. Hutchens and Cameron D. Deans as elders, and W. Stanley Davis, Noble T. Praigg, and Charles S. McGahey as deacons.

On March 4, 1945, the following associate deacons having been appointed by the Session were formally installed: Messrs. F. L. Brooks, J. W. Herndon, T. G. Callahan, Carl Connor, C. H. Jarvis, J. H. Mourane, H. C. Simmons, J. W. Thomas, Sr., C. M. Thomas, C. A. White, H. O. Williams, C. R. Wilcox, J. H. Smith, A. W. Burns, Jr., R. J. Johnson, F. F. Miller, E. B. Gamble, and J. H. Holbrook. At the five o'clock vesper service on this same day, Professor Dan W. Smith presented a beautiful Lenten Cantata, *Message From The Cross*.

The Committee which had been elected at the same time the Pulpit Committee was—a committee to see that a minister was in the pulpit each Sunday was diligent in its task and as a result the pulpit was filled each Sunday with such able and consecrated ministers as: Dr. Walter L. Lingle, Dr. Kenneth J. Foreman, Dr. H. V. Carson, The Reverend DeWitt F. Helm, The Reverend J. W. Foster, The Reverend Henry G. Bedinger, Dr. G. I. Humphrey, Dr. Percy Lindley, Dr. Frederick W. Lewis, Dr. J. W. Whitmore, The Reverend J. P. H. McNatt, Dr. E. A. Beaty, and others, the work ran with more ease than had been anticipated.

With the beginning of the new year, 1945, the Pulpit Committee started out with boundless enthusiasm to find the right man for minister of the Church. As they worked they kept an ever listening ear to the ground for names of eligible ministers. The Chairman interviewed Presbyterian ministers in nearby cities for likely names. Among those given him was the name of a young minister in Rock Hill, South Carolina, The Reverend Julian Lake. The Committee visited Mr. Lake's church and heard him preach. They liked him and talked with him after the services.

The Reverend Lake and his wife agreed to come to High Point and look the field over. They came and seemed pleased with the Church. Mr. Lake then said that before a call was sent him he would like to have time to prayerfully consider the matter. He further stated that as soon as he had made up his mind that he would advise the Committee of his decision. After several weeks Mr. Lake wrote and advised

he could not allow the Church to send him a call, because he had so many young people, from his church, in the armed services that he could not get the consent of his mind to move while they were away.

The Committee was distressed over Mr. Lake's decision, because they had been so hopeful he would accept a call to the Church. At the same meeting the report from Mr. Lake was read, the Committee prayed earnestly for Divine Guidance. This guidance was granted for soon members of the Committee were led to go and talk with Dr. George Mauze, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Dr. Mauze highly recommended an outstanding young minister he knew by the name of The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones, Greenville, Mississippi. He even went so far as to call the Presbyterian Church of Greenville to see if Mr. Jones would be in his pulpit the following Sunday. He found that he would be.

The Committee was elated over the help Dr. Mauze had given them. They must go hear Mr. Jones next Sunday. Greenville, Mississippi, was a long way off. The entire committee could not go. Since they couldn't it was decided that four of the men: Charles W. Perry, Henry V. Koonts, Donald E. Headen, and Harold P. Morrison should charter a plane, at their own expense, and make the trip.

On Saturday morning of that same week these four men left by chartered plane—enthusiastic over their mission. When they were over Muscle Shoals, Alabama, the plane developed engine trouble. The pilot could find no place to land there. He remembered he had passed over a landing field at Decatur, Alabama. There was but one thing to do, turn around and hope that he could make it there. He turned the plane around and after a tense fifteen minutes made an emergency landing at a military airport. There was serious trouble with the plane. It could not be repaired immediately. There was no plane, or train that could get the Committee to Greenville, Mississippi, in time to attend the 11 o'clock services at the Presbyterian Church the next day. They had come all of this way to get there by that time. There surely was some way they could do it. With the help of the Western Union Manager a private car was hired. Going this way meant an all night automobile ride, but they set out. The trip was a slow hazardous one because of dense fog. They were forced to drive slow and finally arrived in Greenville only a few hours before time for Church Service—arrived there weary from the loss of sleep and literally staggering as they entered the hotel to freshen up a bit, before going to Church.

Even though the Committee members were weary from the loss of sleep, the long trip, and the harrowing experience of an emergency landing, they realized individually, after hearing the sermon, that The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones was the type of minister for whom they were looking. After eating lunch and catching a little sleep the Committee held prayers, conferred, and then agreed they should talk to Mr. Jones. They had a meeting with him and he agreed that he and his wife would fly to High Point at the expense of the Church, and look the field over.

The Reverend and Mrs. Jones came and were agreeably impressed with the High Point field. Mr. Jones then gave the Committee permission to send him a call if the congregation so voted. A congregational meeting was held on March 18, 1945, and the following call was extended to The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones, signed by the entire Pulpit Committee:

"The First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, being on sufficient grounds completely satisfied of the ministerial qualifications of you, Paul Tudor Jones, and having good hopes from our knowledge of your labors that your ministrations in the Gospel will be profitable and beneficial to our spiritual interests, and having faith in our Lord, the Supreme Head of the Church, that He has led and directed us to seek you, do earnestly call you to undertake the pastoral office in this Congregation, promising you, in the discharge of your duty, all proper support, encouragement and obedience in the Lord. And that you may be free from worldly cares and avocations, we hereby promise and oblige ourselves to pay you the sum of FIVE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$5100.00) per year in regular monthly payments, and we will provide you with a comfortable manse, furnishing fuel for heating same, and we will pay a sum equivalent to 7 1/2% of the salary into the Minister's Annuity Fund, in conformity with the rules and regulations of said Fund during the time of your being and continuing in the relationship set forth in this call to this Church. And we do further promise and agree to pay all expense of moving your household furnishings, yourself and family from your present location to establish you in our Church manse."

Mr. Jones accepted the call, early in the month of April, and his acceptance of it was announced to the congregation. In announcing Mr. Jones' acceptance the Chairman of the Pulpit Committee said, "Our Church can feel itself highly fortunate that The Reverend Mr. Jones has accepted our call. He is a well educated and loveable

man, who brings with him a charming wife and two children—an eight-year-old son and a four-year-old daughter.”

The spontaneous joy of the congregation over The Reverend Mr. Jones accepting the call to the High Point Church, was short lived though, because a 'phone call came from Mr. Jones the first part of the week stating that Central Mississippi Presbytery had refused to release him. He further stated that while he acquiesced to the wishes of his Presbytery, that he still had the conviction that his call to the High Point Church was from God.

All of this was distraughting, but in due time the Central Mississippi Presbytery reconsidered and Mr. Jones was granted a letter to Orange Presbytery and moved his family to High Point.

On May 20, 1945, The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones preached his first sermon as Pastor of the Church—*In The Beginning God*, wearing a Geneva gown, which he was accustomed to wearing in the pulpit.

Prior to Mr. Jones' arrival on April 3, Dr. Fredrick Lewis had worn his Geneva gown at the morning service, and the bulletin that day had carried an excerpt from a letter of Dr. Walter L. Lingle: "I am in favor of what is known as a Geneva gown for ministers of our faith. It gets its name from Geneva, where John Calvin preached, and it is the kind of gown that he wore. It is a plain simple black gown without any ornamentations. The ministers of our Scottish forefathers have worn this kind of gown for centuries. It is also widely used by ministers in America."

On Friday evening, May 25, 1945, just a week from the time the Joneses arrived in the city, there was a terrific electric storm. The lightning struck the beautiful white oak tree, on the lawn in front of the church—ran down the trunk of it and peeled away considerable bark. The same lightning jumped to the church building, and knocked off the ornament that capped the north side of the entrance to the Narthex. When Mrs. Jones heard about this havoc the lightning had played, she said, in her accustomed humorous way, "I hope this is not God expressing His displeasure in the Jones' coming to High Point."

At the time Mr. Jones came to the Church, as its Pastor, Charles W. Perry was Vice-Moderator of the Session and W. A. Hayes was Clerk; J. P. Williamson was Chairman of the Diaconate; Mrs. R. D. Tillson, President of the Woman's Auxiliary, which was composed of eight regular and four evening circles; Chairman of the Associate

Diaconate, Charles S. McGahey; President of Men's Club, H. P. Morrison; President of Youth's Fellowship, Miss Nancy White; Director of Religious Education, Miss Amelia Hough; Dan W. Smith, Director of the Choir and Church Organist; Church Treasurer, W. L. Robbinette; Mrs. Bertha Buie, Church Hostess; and Robert Avery, Janitor.

To the Spring meeting of Orange Presbytery, D. E. Headen and Charles W. Perry went as representatives of the Church to present The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones to Presbytery. At this meeting the installation service for Mr. Jones was set by Presbytery for Sunday morning, June 10, 1945, at 11 o'clock. The Commission to install The Reverend Mr. Jones as Minister of this church was: Dr. J. R. Cunningham, President of Davidson College, to preach the sermon; The Reverend M. S. Huske, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Reidsville, to charge the pastor; Elder M. E. Yount, Sr., from the Graham Presbyterian Church to charge the congregation.

On June 14, 1945, the congregation honored The Reverend and Mrs. Jones with an evening reception. To this reception there were invited all the ministers of Orange Presbytery with their wives.

During the month of July Mr. Jones attended the Minister's Conference at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, and supplied the pulpit of the West End Collegiate Church.

From July 2-7, Miss Hough attended the Intermediate Conference of Young People in Raleigh, as a teacher and counselor.

While Mr. Jones was away on his vacation, it came to the ears of some of the Officers of the Church, that a lot fronting 60 feet on North Main Street—the Montsinger lot—just south of the Church site, was for sale and was being considered seriously by a party for an apartment house site. The Officers decided it ought to be bought by the Church and incorporated into the church grounds. A congregational meeting was called, and on July 22, 1945, a recommendation was made and approved to purchase this lot.

Previously the Church trustees, Carter Dalton, Z. I. Walser, and Frank F. Dickson, had resigned. Because of this fact it was necessary to elect trustees at this same meeting, so that the action of the congregation could be completed. I. Paul Ingle, J. Sanders Dallas, and Donald E. Headen were elected as Trustees, and authorized to accept the deed and sign any papers for the congregation necessary in the purchasing of the lot.

At one of the vesper services, during the month of August, Professor Dan W. Smith presented a Cantata, the *Voice of the Prophet*, by Albert Hay Maletto. During this same month of August the *Gleaners Class* started a nursery to be held during the Sunday morning service.

On V-J Day, August 14, 1945, an impromptu Thanksgiving Service was held at the Church, immediately following the sound of the whistles and sirens that had been pre-arranged to announce the cessation of war. At this time the emotions of the Church members were great. There were 74 members of the church listed as Veterans of World War II, and six of its members had lost their lives. The names of these six were: George Edwin Knight, William Lentz, W. Gatewood Shipman, Edwin G. Watkins, Vernon Wicker, and P. C. Thompson.

The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones and Elder Charles W. Perry represented the High Point Church at the meeting of Synod which was held at Davidson College, October 8-9, 1945. The theme of the Home Mission Conference, which preceded the meeting of Synod, was *Evangelism* and great emphasis was laid on this subject.

At the meeting of Synod, which followed this Conference, Evangelism was also emphasized. There it was stated that: "The Southern Presbyterian Church was seeking to build 500 chapels in its 17 synods, and that the North Carolina Synod had been assigned a goal of 65 chapels. The General Assembly had also fixed a goal of 50,000 additions on profession of faith—the North Carolina Synod's goal was about 9,000 additions."

The idea of establishing so many new chapels caught the imagination of Mr. Jones. He resolved in his heart to do something about it in High Point. He talked with Elder Perry and they went to see Dr. J. O. Mann, Director of Religious Education in the Synod, to talk with him about securing the services of Miss Sara Little, to help in making a survey for chapel locations in High Point. Dr. Mann was enthusiastic over helping, but advised that Miss Little's services would not be available until January, 1946.

Upon their return to High Point, Mr. Jones reported to the Session about the conference he and Mr. Perry had had with Dr. Mann. The Session welcomed the idea of establishing Out-post Sunday Schools. A special committee, composed of Elders Charles W. Perry, Cameron D. Deans and G. E. Hutchens, was appointed and instructed to make preliminary studies of possible locations for out-post

Sunday Schools, and have the studies in readiness when Miss Little arrived in January.

On Wednesday night, October 3, 1945, Professor Dan W. Smith, assisted by the Children's and Young People's Choirs, put on a Hymn Festival, and during that same month Christmas packages were sent by some of the women of the Church to men in service overseas.

After the Committee on Out-post Sunday Schools had gotten their work well under way, Mr. Jones began talking personal evangelism with his Session. The result of his talking was that a Loyalty Campaign was put on at which time 450 church members pledged themselves to give their unlimited support to the Church and its activities for the next six weeks. Following this campaign, on November 4-9, 1945, there was observed a Week of Spiritual Enrichment at which time Dr. Fredrick W. Lewis was guest minister. This period of enrichment was then followed by a Visitation Evangelism Campaign, of which Elder Frank B. Smith was Chairman. To carry out this campaign Elder Smith and his committee recruited 65 men and women who went out in teams of twos—inviting all those they contacted, who were not already a member of a church, to make a decision for Christ.

On Sunday, November 18, following this Visitation Evangelism Week, 52 were received into the membership of the Church, 14 were baptized and received on profession of faith (11 of these were adults—most of them parents); and 38 were received by letter or restatement. The results from this Evangelism Campaign showed that 56 of the 133 contacted had been won to a decision for Christ and joined the Church. Others had indicated they would do so later.

The results of the Visitation Evangelism Campaign Program were so far-reaching, and had been the means of bringing in so many new members that it seemed to Mr. Jones something should be done about its continuation. The Session appointed a committee: Charles W. Perry, from the Session; Henry V. Koonts, from the Board of Deacons; and A. W. Burns, Jr., from the Associate Board of Deacons. This committee was to study the matter and report to the Session the advisability of continuing Visitation Evangelism in some permanent form.

This special committee met with Pastor Jones and formulated a plan to go to the Session. This plan was that a permanent committee of five be recommended to formulate a program of systematic

contact for prospective church members. This committee was to elect a committee of five from the officers of the Church to serve for a period of one month at a time—each successive month a new rotating committee to be selected. Theoretically it was figured that approximately sixty officers would participate in this work during the course of a calendar year, thus giving all of those officers willing to serve an opportunity to do so. Fundamentally, it was felt that every officer should have not only the training, but the opportunity to do this very important work.

This plan was adopted by the Session and A. W. Burns, Jr., was named Chairman. H. P. Morrison, Henry V. Koonts, Charles W. Perry, and I. Paul Ingle, the other members of the committee. This was definitely the beginning of the work of the Evangelism Committee which has continued to function throughout the years that have followed.

The rotary system for the church officers had been in effect since December 12, 1943, but there was a feeling by many that the plan was inadequate. At the January 28, 1946, Session meeting this was discussed and a committee of seven was appointed: Cameron D. Deans, Chairman; C. C. Garrett, D. E. Headen, Henry V. Koonts, H. P. Morrison, P. H. Dalton III, and H. O. Williams to make a thorough study of the entire Rotary System, as it was operating, and to recommend changes that they thought might be helpful. A thorough investigation of the system was made and several changes were suggested. When the study was completed a plan of procedure was mapped out by the committee. The Session and Diaconate approved the plan and the congregation adopted it—the plan then adopted, with a few minor changes, is the same as used in the Church today.

On January 30, 1946, the whole Church membership was saddened by the untimely death of Elder Cecil Clark Garrett, one of the fifteen endorsers of the note which helped stabilize the debt of the Church. The *Presbygram* following his death carried under Elder Garrett's name: "The memorial of virtue is immortal because it is known with God and man." Then on February 10, 1946, at a meeting of the Session the following letter was ordered written and sent:

"To the Family of Cecil Clark Garrett:

"The Ruling Elders of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point desire to express to you our deep and heartfelt sympathy in the earthly loss of your husband and father. His passing is also our loss. We shall miss him and his clear thinking and fine judgment, and

shall strive to profit by the example set by him as a faithful and effective member and Officer of this Church.

"All of the elders are signing this letter and a signed duplicate has been filed with the permanent record of the Session."

Early in the month of January, 1946, the Out-post Sunday School Committee met, organized and divided up the responsibilities among its members. Charlie Perry was to look after the direction of the survey; George Hutchens was to look after suitable lots, and housing facilities after the survey was made; and Cameron Deans was to be responsible for the personnel that would serve as officers and teachers in the Out-Post Sunday Schools when established.

In a short time after the duties of the Committee were divided up the whole Committee met with the Pastor and The Reverend J.P.H. McNatt, Pastor of the Brentwood Presbyterian Church, and discussed different outlying sections of the City for potential Out-post Sunday School locations. There were three localities agreed upon—one on the High Point-Thomasville Road; One on the Greensboro Highway, in the vicinity of Five Points; and the third one on Centennial Avenue Extension.

Upon arrival in the city, on January 25, 1946, Miss Sara Little immediately began a survey on the High Point-Thomasville Road. This locality was abandoned however, because it was soon found that most of the families out that way attended other churches.

On Sunday afternoon, early in the month of February, 40 members of the First Presbyterian Church voluntarily helped Miss Little with the survey on the Greensboro Highway, and on Centennial Avenue Extension. The Centennial Avenue Extension locality was abandoned because it was learned that the First Baptist Church was fixing to establish a mission church out there.

The survey on the Greensboro Road showed that the section around Five Points was being taken care of by a new Methodist church, but that there was a section between Five Points and Old Jamestown that was not adequately served by any church. This locality was chosen as the first area in which to establish an Out-post Sunday School.

When Elder George E. Hutchens began looking around for a building in which Sunday School could be held, in this locality, there was nothing to be found but an abandoned fire-cracker stand. This little stand was on the south side of the Greensboro Highway, and on the east side of the entrance to Crestwood Park Circle. Since there

seemed to be no other place available, this little stand was rented, and with much needed carpenter work and paint, it was converted into a usable building with all tables, chairs and other furnishings for the opening, being brought from the First Presbyterian Church in one of Mr. G. E. Hutchen's grocery trucks.

On Sunday morning February 24, 1946, at 9:45 o'clock, Sunday School was held for the first time in the little fire-cracker stand. There were twenty-three at this meeting, with the following officers and teachers: Superintendent, H. C. Simmons; Secretary-Treasurer Harry A. Alexander, Sr.; and teachers, for adults, Earnest McCall; for juniors, Mrs. C. H. Tabbutt; for children, Mrs. Jack Taylor, assisted by Miss Eva Lee Simmons; and for intermediates, Mrs. Alex Murray. It was decided to call this out-post Sunday School Crestwood Chapel.

With this start made at the little fire-cracker stand on the Greensboro Highway, Miss Little turned her attention to a survey for another Out-post Sunday School. This survey was on the Asheboro Highway, approximately a mile south of Archdale. When the survey was completed it could be seen that an out-post Sunday School was needed in that section. The machinery to establish one was set in motion.

In early March the Chairman of Out-post Sunday Schools had requested the Session to add two additional names to the committee: Henry V. Koonts, to work with George E. Hutchens; and Harold P. Morrison to work with Cameron D. Deans.

After looking around on the Asheboro Highway, it was decided that there was no available building that could be rented for a Sunday school—a building would have to be constructed.

Several lots were considered. Then one was located on the west side of the Asheboro Highway—on the H. C. Miller farm. This lot was bought and a building twenty feet wide and forty-eight feet long, with a large assembly room in the center and two classrooms on each end, was planned. All building materials were under allocation by the Government, but the Committee found a way to get plywood and lumber—perhaps black market.

By March 24, 1946, this building was near enough completed to hold Sunday School in it, so at 2:30 p.m., Sunday School was held in it with fifty-eight people in attendance—this number included the following officers and teachers:

Superintendent, F. Logan Porter, Sr.; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. John B. Williams; Pianist Miss Ann Scott Garrett; Adult Teacher,

Mr. J. H. Mourane; Young Peoples Teacher, Mr. Davis Smith; Junior Teacher, Mrs. J. Williard Thomas; and Primary Teacher, Mrs. George Connor, Sr.

At a meeting held on Friday night, April 26, 1946, the name Randolph Chapel was officially voted for the Out-post Sunday School on the Asheboro Road.

Holy Week was observed in the High Point Church April 14-21, 1946, with The Reverend Edgar F. Roming, D.D., Senior Minister of New York City's Collegiate Churches, and Pastor of the West End Collegiate Church, as guest minister.

Immediately following the founding of the two Out-post Sunday Schools Mr. Jones and a different elder for each Sunday began holding Church services in them. One Sunday evening Mr. Jones was at Crestwood and the elder at Randolph for 11:00 o'clock morning service and the next Sunday the places of Mr. Jones and the elder were reversed. About this same time the Session began making out schedules, sending different elders and deacons of the Church to visit the chapels at designated times to show interest and to swell the crowd.

In June 1946, Elder Charles W. Perry, of the High Point Church, was sent as a Commissioner by Orange Presbytery to General Assembly at Montreat.

On June 18, 1946, there was much excitement in the Congregation. News was being narrated around that there was a new baby in the manse—a lad by the name of George Shelton Jones had come to make the Jones Family happy. George was the first baby born to the manse on Colonial Drive, and the first one to come to the Presbyterian Manse since Catherine Coble was born at the South Main Street Manse many years before.

When The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones came as Pastor to the High Point Church, in May, 1945, he was acquainted with the fact that there was a \$35,000.00 debt on it. He also was acquainted with the fact that arrangements had been made to pay it off. Early in the summer of 1946, this promise to Mr. Jones about the debt, came to fruition through Divine support, and plans were begun for the Dedicatory Service which was set for Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 1946.

To attend this Dedication Service there came by invitation, The Reverend and Mrs. Charles P. Coble; Dr. and Mrs. Orin Conway Williamson; and Mrs. Joseph Rennie.

The day of Dedication dawned crispy cold and bright with sunshine, and there was a capacity congregation at the Church to take part in the following services:

SERVICE OF DEDICATION

Order of Worship

PROCESSIONAL HYMN 345—"The Church's One Foundation"

(The Congregation will stand and join in the singing when the procession enters the Sanctuary)

CALL TO WORSHIP

THE GLORIA PATRI

(The Congregation standing)

THE SCRIPTURE READING

From the Old Testament: I Kings 8:22, 23, 27-30

The Epistle: I Corinthians 3:10-23

The Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

THE APOSTLES' CREED

(The Congregation standing)

PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF CHURCH KEYS . . . By Mr. Harold P. Morrison,
Chairman, Board of Deacons; Representative of the Congregation

ACCEPTANCE OF KEYS—

By The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones, *Minister*

ANTHEM—"How Lovely is Thy Dwelling Place" *Brahms*

Solemn Act of Dedication

(The Congregation standing)

The Minister: Dearly Beloved Brethren: Forasmuch as it pleased Almighty God to put it into the hearts of His servants to build this house for His worship, let us now fulfill the Godly purpose for which we are assembled of dedicating it to the honor of God's most holy name.

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Father who art in heaven:

The People: To Thee we dedicate this house.

The Minister: Lord Jesus, Son of God, Savior of the world, Head of the Body which is the Church:

The People: To Thee we dedicate this house.

The Minister: Spirit of God, given to be our abiding Teacher, Sanctifier, and comforter; Lord and giver of life:

The People: To Thee we dedicate this house.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION The Reverend J.P.H. McNatt,
Minister, Brentwood Presbyterian Church, High Point, N. C.

HYMN 385—"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation."
(The Congregation standing)

ADDRESS "The Silent Witness of a Church"
The Reverend Charles Paul Coble,
Minister, Latta Presbyterian Church, Latta, S. C.

ADDRESS "The Glory of God's House"
The Reverend Orin Conway Williamson, D.D.
Minister, Cook's Memorial Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, N. C.

ANTHEM—"Come, Ye Faithful People, Come" . . . *Goldsworthy*

RECESSIONAL HYMN 349—"O Where are Kings & Empires Now"
(The Congregation standing)

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

Ministers and wives of former ministers back for Dedication of Church, November 28, 1946.



Left to right: The Reverend J.P.H. McNatt, Dr. Walter L. Lingle, The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones, Mrs. Joseph Rennie, Mrs. O. C. Williamson, Dr. O. C. Williamson, Mrs. C. P. Coble and Mr. Coble.

“December 17, 1946

Hardly had the thrill of having been able at last, to dedicate the beautiful church home of the High Point First Presbyterian Church, to God, when the Congregation was saddened by the death of Dr. W. A. Hayes. He had been an Elder, Clerk of the Session, and one of the fifteen endorsers of the note which helped stabilize the Church Debt. His passing was keenly felt by all. A letter was sent from the Session to the Hayes Family which read:

“Mrs. W. A. Hayes, and Family
418 Edgedale Drive,
High Point, N. C.

Dear Mrs. Hayes:

“At a recent meeting of the Sessions, First Presbyterian Church, High Point, North Carolina, it was their will that we express to

you and members of your family our deep and heartfelt sympathy in the recent death of our good friend and Senior Elder of the Session.

"We will and have already missed him in the Session, where his clear thinking and good judgment was always welcomed. While his passing is our earthly loss, we realize it is a heavenly gain for our Master, and we shall long remember him and profit by his example."

At Christmas in 1946, a group of the Church men purchased an Oldsmobile and presented it to Mr. Jones as a token of their great love and appreciation of his fine work as minister of the church.

The March 2, 1947, bulletin stated that after being Organist and Choir Director, of the Church for more than 19 years, Professor Dan W. Smith had resigned. He was a talented musician and had for many years served the Church well. He was efficient in service and faithful in his attendance to all of the Church Services. It was going to be a hard job to secure a man to take his place. Until this was done Miss Amelia Hough had agreed to act as Choir Director and Organist, in addition to her other duties.

The following elders and deacons who had recently been elected as officers of the Church, were ordained and installed. The elders were: H. P. Hardin, Noble T. Praigg, George W. Connor, Sr., Howard R. Pancoast, P. H. Dalton, III, Harry A. Alexander, Sr., V. W. Idol, Sr., H. P. Morrison, and Henry V. Koonts. I. Paul Ingle, Sr., F. Logan Porter, Sr., and C. A. McMurray had previously been ordained, so were installed.

The deacons: J. Williard Thomas, Sr., J. H. McCall, C. A. White, J. H. Hogg, W. W. Lentz, William D. Lemons and C. R. Wilcox, W. F. Robinette, C. S. McGahey, C. M. Allred, Kenneth Redman, and W. Stanley Davis. R. M. Gladstone, Jr., J. E. Beeson, and J. P. Williamson were only installed for they previously had been ordained.

At the monthly meeting of the Session held in March 1947, the yearly report to Orange Presbytery was made out. This report carried the statement that 97 new members had been added to the Church Roll during the past year.

The Annual observance of Holy Week was held in the Church during the week beginning March 30. The guest speaker for this

week was Dr. George Mauze, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Winston-Salem, N. C.

On Sunday, March 30, 1947, after the morning worship service, the Chairman of the Worship Committee, Charles W. Perry announced that the services of Mr. Henry Whipple, as Minister of Music in the Church, had been secured. He would report to the Church during April coming from the First Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama, where he was employed as Minister of Music.

At the Session meeting held on April 9, 1947, Donald E. Headen and Harry L. Brown were given a vote of thanks for the efficient way they had served as Clerk of the Session since Dr. W. A. Hayes' death. At this same meeting, Henry V. Koonts was named permanent Clerk of the Session.

On May 2, 1947, word was received at the Church that Dr. Eugene Leon Siler, a beloved pastor of the Church, who had served it from 1903-1909, had died.

At the May 10, 1947, Session meeting, the Clerk was instructed to write Mrs. W. A. Hayes a note of thanks for her services as the Custodian of the Communion, and to request her to continue as Custodian of the Communion Service and supervision of the preparation of the Lord's Table. She and Dr. Hayes had so faithfully performed this service until his death.

In May, 1947, Mr. Thomas T. Traynham, a student at the Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia, came to High Point to assist Mr. Jones—especially to assist him in his work at the Crestwood and Randolph Chapels.

At the Spring Meeting of Orange Presbytery, The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones was named as a Commissioner to go to the meeting of the General Assembly, and in June he attended this meeting.

On May 21, 1947, Mr. Whipple took up his work as Minister of Music, and soon two additional choirs were organized—the Intermediate, and the Boy's and Girl's.

Since Mr. Jones had been Pastor of the Church he had been thinking of a week-day kindergarten in the Church. With the permission of the Session this kindergarten was planned to open in September, 1947, with Mrs. C. N. Cox the first teacher. Her job being to introduce the little ones who would be charter students, to group training, primary to formal schooling.

In June Mr. Jones was authorized by the Session to appoint a special committee to investigate the possibility of helping in the work of Displaced Persons and assist in finding places for them to live and work. Frank B. Smith was named Chairman of this committee with G. E. Hutchens from the Session; from the Diaconate J. Paul Williamson, R. M. Gladstone, Jr., and Sanders Dallas; from the Associate Board of Deacons W. H. Kimery, F. F. Miller, S. P. Montgomery, and J. T. Reynolds.

At the July 9, 1947, meeting of the Session, Frank B. Smith, Chairman of the New Member's Committee reported that the Pamphlet, *Become A Member of the Presbyterian Church*, had been printed and was being given to all of the new Church members.

On August 28, 1947, Z. I. Walser, a Ruling Elder in the Church since November 25, 1928, died. A Committee from the Session, composed of F. Logan Porter, Sr., Dr. Harry L. Brockmann, and Henry V. Koonts were appointed to draft a tribute to his memory—send a copy to his family and spread it on the Session Minutes.

Late in September Miss Bettye Brueck handed in her resignation as Church Secretary. Her reason for so doing was that she and George E. White were going to be married in October.

November 5-6, Mrs. Frank C. Stanton, of Charlotte, N. C., came to the Church to conduct for the women a season of intensive Bible study on the Book of Matthew.

At a Congregational meeting held on December 14, 1947, the following elders were elected: Carter Dalton, D. E. Headen, R. D. Tilson, and G. E. Hutchens. On January 11, 1948, the following deacons were elected: A. M. Rankin, Jr., J. S. Dallas, Ernest McCall, M. E. Brown, D. W. Hunter, J. D. Ross, V. W. Idol, Jr., C. M. Garrison, and J. C. Kaneer.

With the beginning of the calendar year 1948, the tempo of the Church's activities seemed to step up. Mr. Whipple began helping with the music at the Out-post Sunday Schools, and on January 18, 1948, these two Sunday Schools, Crestwood and Randolph, were organized by Orange Presbytery into churches. On February 13, World Day of Prayer was observed by the Church members. On March 1, Miss Lillie Mae La Garde, of Corinth, Mississippi, joined the Church Staff as Church Secretary, and Assistant Director of Religious Education.

On Sunday morning March 4, 1948, the new Elders and Deacons were ordained and installed, and the following associate deacons, having been appointed by the Session, were installed: S. O. Bailey, Dr. E. A. Bencini, W. F. Blair, Frank Dalton, Hunter Dalton, III, Hal A. Davis, Dr. W. H. Flythe, Sam Groce, J. Frank Hicks, T. R. Kennerly, W. H. Kimery, Charles Plummer, J. T. Reynolds, H. D. Sears, Jr., B. Eugene Shannon, Guy Shivers, and John A. Womack. Also, the officers and teachers of the Sunday School were installed at this time.

The Spring Rally of Young People's Fellowship met in the Church on Sunday, March 21, 1948, and the following day, March 22-25, Holy Week Services were held with The Reverend Samuel D. Howe, D.D., of the Highland Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville, North Carolina, as guest minister.

Prior to the conducting of the Every-Member-Canvass in March, much preliminary work had been done—a new system was being mapped out. When the plan reached fruition the entire Congregation had been divided, geographically, into thirteen groups with designated elders, deacons, and associate deacons responsible for the Church Membership in their group.

On April 11, Dr. O. C. Williamson, a former pastor of the Church who was in the City for the Dedication of the Brentwood Church, was guest minister at the morning services in the First Church.

Mr. Jones was absent from the Church Pulpit the first Sunday in June, 1948. He was attending Commencement Exercises at South Western College, Memphis, Tennessee, where he was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity by his alma mater.

Beginning with the month of June, Mr. Sam Smith, a rising senior at the Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia, came to the Church to assist Dr. Jones during the summer months, both at the First Church and at the Mission Churches. About the same time Mr. Smith came, Mr. Whipple began publishing the *Hymn of the Month* in the bulletin and having the Congregation sing it.

Early in the month of June, 1948, it was suggested that something should be done about better acquainting the new members with the Church Staff, and the workings of their new church home. It was suggested that the Elders and their wives give a dinner hon-

oring those who had joined the Church during the last year. This idea seemed good. Pleasant Hunter Dalton III and Charles W. Perry were asked to plan for this first New-Member-Dinner. This dinner was held on June 30, 1948, and was such a success that this plan of a New-Member-Dinner has been followed every six months since that date.

At a Congregational meeting held on December 5, 1948, it was voted to increase the Bench of Elders to twenty-five, with five classes of five elders each, in addition to the Life Class.

At a Congregational meeting held on January 16, 1949, the eight elders to increase the Session to twenty-five, which were not elected at the December meeting were elected, also nine deacons to fill vacancies and for class of 1954.

The Elders were: A. M. Rankin, Jr., Dr. H. L. Brockmann, Charles W. Perry, Frank B. Smith, C. E. Stuart, H. L. Brown, Ernest H. McCall, and E. M. Shipman. The Deacons elected were: Hal A. Davis, J. A. Womack, J. Ed Pleasants, S. H. Denny, Carl W. Justice, J. C. Kaneer, J. W. Herndon, Dr. N. R. Callaghan, and E. B. Gamble.

Early in the year 1949, the Church decided to partially support Miss Gene Lindler, as a Missionary to Korea. On August 31, 1949, she sailed for Korea from San Francisco.

Guest Minister for the Holy Week Services, beginning on April 10, 1949, was The Reverend Chester A. Alexander, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Burlington, N. C. In May from 8-13, Dr. Julian Prive Love, Professor of Biblical Theology at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, lectured on the Gospel of John daily in the Church.

On May 15, 1949, Mrs. J. T. Reynolds joined the Church Staff as Business Secretary, and Miss Lillie Mae La Garde began serving as temporary Director of Religious Education, until a successor to Miss Hough, who had accepted work at the First Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, could be found.

On April 6, 1949, the Session approved that a call be extended The Reverend Murphy Wilds as Mission Pastor for the Crestwood and Randolph Churches. On April 17, 1949, Mr. Wiles accepted the call.

At the April 17, 1949, Session meeting a letter of resignation, from Miss Amelia Hough, Director of Religious Education, to take

effect May 6, 1949, was read. The Clerk was then instructed to write Miss Hough a letter which reads in part as follows:

"The Session received with surprise, and accepts with regret, your resignation effective May 6, 1949. Your capable and efficient service in every department of our Church has been a great power for good and an inspiration to all."

At the July 6, 1949, Session meeting Mr. and Mrs. P. Hunter Dalton III were commended, by a unanimous vote of thanks, for organizing, and sponsoring the Westminster Fellowship Group.

On August 28, 1949, The Reverend Murphy Wilds was installed as Pastor of the Crestwood and Randolph Churches.

At different times during Dr. Paul T. Jones' pastorate in High Point, Dr. Charles E. S. Kraemer, and Dr. Warner L. Hall filled the Church Pulpit, so that delegations from other churches might hear them preach.

At a Congregational meeting held on December 11, 1949, George Connor, Hal A. Davis, H. P. Hardin, W. W. Lentz and D. Waring Smith were elected elders to the Class of 1955. On January 15, 1950, Dr. W. H. Flythe, J. H. Hogg, C. P. Montgomery, J. H. McCall, E. J. Oglesby, and Richard Short were elected to the Class of 1955, on the Diaconate. W. F. Blair, J. T. Reynolds, Richard Short were named to the Class of 1954; Griffith Miles to Class of 1951, and C. A. White to the Life Class.

Activities in the Church continued to move swiftly throughout the calendar year of 1950, but few new activities were added. For the Holy Week Services Dr. Charles E.S. Kraemer, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Charlotte, was guest minister.

A Congregational meeting was called for Sunday, December 3, 1949, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the office of elder. At this meeting the following Elders were elected for the Class of 1956: H. A. Alexander, Sr., P. Hunter Dalton, III, C. M. Garrison, C. S. McGahey, and A. M. Rankin. Vernon Idol, Sr., was placed in the Life Class. Elected to 1956 Class of Deacons were J. E. Beeson, R. M. Gladstone, Jr., W. D. Lemmons, Charles E. Plummer, John W. Southerlands, Sam Wiley, J. P. Williamson, and Griffith Miles to the Life Class.

For the observance of the Holy Week Services March 18-25, 1951, there were two guest ministers: Dr. John R. Redhead of the First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro on Tuesday night, and Dr.

Warner L. Hall, Pastor of the Covenant Presbyterian Church of Charlotte, N.C., Wednesday night.

The momentum of the Church activities was still moving at a rapid rate when the Session held a meeting on March 22, 1951, and Dr. Paul T. Jones made a profound announcement—an announcement to them with great restraint—an announcement that he had received a call to the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Virginia, and that after prayerful consideration of the field of service, had concluded that it was God's will that he accept the call. He then requested that a Congregational meeting be held on April 8, to consider dissolving his pastoral relations with the Church, in order that his resignation could be presented to the Spring Meeting of Orange Presbytery, that was to be held on April 11, 1951.

Because of this request from the beloved pastor of the Church, Dr. Paul Tudor Jones, the Congregational meeting was called and held on April 8, 1951, with Dr. T. Henry Patterson moderating the meeting. At this meeting a letter from Dr. Jones was read. It is as follows:

"Following as best I know the will of God, I have reached the decision to accept a call to the pastorate of the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Virginia. I therefore, respectfully request you, the Congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, N. C., to concur with me in requesting the Presbytery of Orange to dissolve the pastoral relations now existing, that I may accept the call to the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, and be dismissed to East Hanover Presbytery, effective May 15, 1951.

"In deep gratitude to Almighty God for the rich experience He has granted me in serving as your minister these six years, and in heaviness of heart at the leave-taking this decision invokes, I make this request.

Respectfully Yours,

Paul Tudor Jones."

Dr. Jones' request was tearfully and prayerfully considered. Then with heavy hearts the Congregation voted to concur with Dr. Jones in his request.

Prior to the holding of this Congregational meeting, according to a long standing custom, a committee from the Session had been

named to bring in a slate of seven names to the Congregation, that would be suitable to serve as a Pulpit Committee to hunt out a successor to Dr. Jones. This slate was presented to the meeting and the following list of names was unanimously accepted: Noble T. Praigg, Henry V. Koonts, Harry A. Alexander, Sr., Mrs. James H. Hogg, Mrs. Ruby S. Bencini, John A. Womack, and J. Ed Pleasants as the new Pulpit Committee.

This meeting then adjourned, and a Session meeting immediately was held. At this meeting Ernest McCall was elected by the Session to carry Dr. Jones' request to Presbytery, and to state that the Congregation concurred with Dr. Jones in his request. Elder Ernest McCall also was instructed to carry along with this request a yearly report of the past year's work for the Church year ending March 31, 1951: "Number enrolled in Sunday School 559; communicants on roll at end of year 1087; Baptisms—adults 20 and infants 17; received on profession of faith 29; by certificate and reaffirmation 83; restored to active membership 13; deaths 10; retired on non-communicants roll 15; dismissed to other churches 56; contributions to benevolences \$32,436.00; and to local Church work \$41,191.00—total monies \$73,627.00.

With these preliminaries attended to, a committee was then appointed to draw up the following resolutions:

"BE IT RESOLVED by the Congregation of the FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, High Point, N. C., in a regularly called and constituted Congregational Meeting held on the 8th day of April, 1951, at 12 o'clock, Noon;

"THAT The Congregation concur in the request of PAUL TUDOR JONES, our beloved Minister for the past six years, that his pastoral relations with this Church be dissolved by the Presbytery of Orange, effective the 15th day of May 1951, in order that he may accept the call of the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Virginia, and be received by the Presbytery of East Hanover, and

"THAT We, the members of the Congregation, confess with penitent hearts that this action is taken contrary to our selfish but sincere wish that he might remain as our Minister. We do each testify that this deep feeling of regret is shared by all who have been given the privilege of knowing and working with PAUL JONES, in this Church, in

the Church Courts, in other denominations, and among all races and classes. However, as firm and reverent believers in the teaching that God has a plan for His Church, and for each of His Servants, we humbly pray to Him—"THY WILL BE DONE."

"AND That we, the members of this Congregation extend to the members of the Congregation of the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Richmond, Virginia, our Christian Love. We commend PAUL JONES to you as a Spiritual Leader, and assure you of our prayers that his ministry will be as rich and rewarding for you as his labors have been for us. To the extent that you follow his guidance, pray for and support him as your Minister, you will love and serve Christ better, and grow in the Grace of God.

APPROVED BY THE SESSION

Noble T. Praigg,
Vice Moderator.

"ATTEST: Henry V. Koonts,
Clerk of the Session
and Congregation.

Unanimously Adopted by the
Congregation of the First
Presbyterian Church,
High Point, N. C.

T. Henry Patterson, D.D.
Executive Secretary of
Orange Presbytery and
Moderator of the
Congregational Meeting."

The moving of Dr. Jones from the City was not only a great loss for the Congregation, but for many citizens who were not members of the Presbyterian Church—he was greatly beloved by the entire City. He had seemed to be an embodiment of the composite characteristics the Pulpit Committee had noted when they went about trying to decide the kind of man they were looking for as Pastor for the First Presbyterian Church. It is remembered that in the manual or requisites they wrote down, one reads: "This minister should be, not only a leader of the First Presbyterian Church

of High Point, but a leader in the various Presbyterian Church Courts. He should also be a man anxious to cooperate in the religious and civic life of the Community.”

That Dr. Paul T. Jones measured up to all of the requirements is attested to by part of an Editorial carried in the *High Point Enterprise* when it was learned he was moving to Richmond:

“Paul Tudor Jones is more than the minister of one of the City’s outstanding churches, as important a role as that is. He is one of the finest citizens this town has ever had—and if he leaves it will be a real community loss . . . Paul Tudor Jones, a man of God, has done a great work in High Point. His efforts have taken firm root and the results are beginning to spread.”



BIOGRAPHY

of

The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones, Jr., D.D.

1909—

The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones, Jr., D.D., the son of Paul Tudor Jones Sr., and Sally Shelton Jones, was born at Corinth, Mississippi on September 23, 1909. His great great grandfather, Dr. Calvin Jones, was a Trustee of the University of North Carolina for many years, and at one time owned the tract of land upon which Old Wake Forest College was built.

When a lad Mr. Jones attended public school in Corinth, and in 1928, at the age of nineteen, entered Southwestern College, Memphis, Tennessee, and was graduated from there in 1932, with an A.B. degree. In 1935, he received his B.D. from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. At Louisville he was awarded the Helm-Bruce Fellowship for being the most outstanding student in English Bible for the three years of study. This coveted fellowship entitled him to a year's study at Union Theological Seminary in New York, from which he received his degree of Master of Systematic Theology. On June 1, 1948, he was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity by Southwestern College—his alma mater.

The Reverend Mr. Jones was licensed and ordained as a minister in the Presbyterian Church of the U. S., in Central Mississippi Presbytery in 1935, and served as pastor of churches in Lexington, Mississippi, and Tchula, Mississippi, in 1935 and 1936. From 1936 to 1939, he was pastor of the Liberty, Missouri, Presbyterian Church, and pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, Mississippi, from 1939 to 1945, when he accepted a call to the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina. From 1945 to 1951, he was pastor there. From 1951 to 1954, he was pastor of the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Virginia, and from there he accepted a call to the Idlewild Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tennessee.

On August 7, 1934, The Reverend Jones was married to Miss Elizabeth Hudson, and to this union there has been born three children, Paul Tudor Jones III, Ann Hudson Jones, and George Shelton Jones.

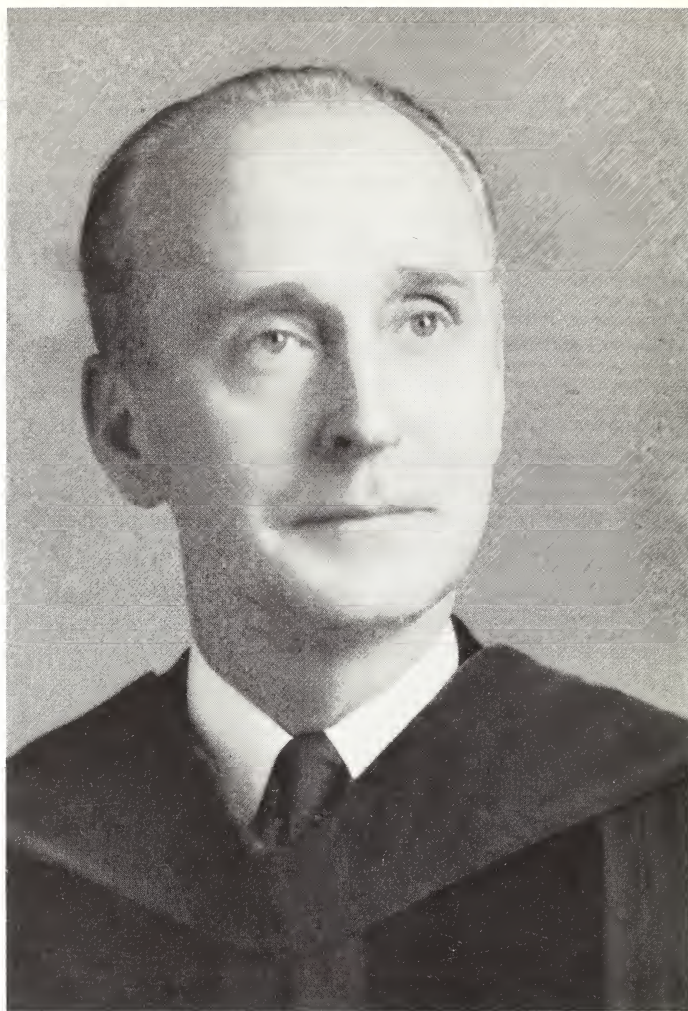
Dr. Paul Tudor Jones, Jr., is recognized as an outstanding minister in the Presbyterian Church, U. S., and is active in its courts,

presbyteries, synods, and General Assembly. He served as a Commissioner from Orange Presbytery of the Synod of North Carolina, at Montreat in May, 1947.

Dr. Jones is frequently called upon for baccalaureate sermons, and is also much in demand as guest speaker at colleges and youth conferences. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club, and director of the Executive's Club, while living in High Point. During this period of time he also served as a Trustee of a mountain school owned by Orange and Winston-Salem Presbyteries—Glade Valley School.

In writing about Dr. Paul Tudor Jones, an officer of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point says: "As a statistical history of the period of Dr. Jones' pastorate, the records are impressive, but through them one senses and feels the love that existed between pastor and people—a manifestation of God according to His plan."





THE REVEREND ROY EDWARD WATTS, D.D.
The Present Minister

CHAPTER XIX

PASTORATE

of

The Reverend Roy Edward Watts, D.D.

1951—

The Church was moving along on a higher Spiritual plane than at any other known time, when Dr. Jones resigned as its Pastor. The Pulpit Committee recognized the fact that it would not continue on this high plane if too much time were allowed to elapse before another Pastor was secured. With this in mind the Pulpit Committee met, elected Henry V. Koonts, Chairman, and started out on an earnest campaign seeking a new minister for the Church that they thought would meet the qualifications the Church must have in a minister.

This Committee composed of Henry V. Koonts, Mrs. Ruby Snow Bencini, Mrs. James H. Hogg, Harry A. Alexander, Sr., Noble T. Praigg, J. Ed Pleasants, and John A. Womack went here and there listening for names of ministers, and talking to others—seeking information about ministers who would qualify as a Pastor for the High Point Church. Several names were suggested but the qualifications of one stood out above all others. Dr. John A. Redhead, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, North Carolina, had suggested his name, so the Committee talked to Dr. Redhead—asking for advice as to how they might hear him preach without making a trip to Mississippi. Dr. Redhead graciously agreed to invite him to preach in his pulpit.

This minister, Dr. Roy Edward Watts, accepted Dr. Redhead's invitation to come as a guest minister to his church. The Committee heard him and were favorably impressed with his sermon, as well as with Dr. Watts himself—so favorably did he impress the Committee that they decided to talk with him, and to invite him to come over to High Point and look the field over. Dr. Watts came to High Point and was favorably impressed with the First Presbyterian Church, so he agreed to entertain a call to it, if the Congregation so voted.

Being sufficiently satisfied that they had located the right man, the Committee reported to the Session, and asked for a Congregational Meeting to be called. This meeting was ordered and held

after the Morning Service, June 3, 1951, with The Reverend Dan W. Caldwell, D.D., guest Minister, serving as Moderator of the meeting.

Soon after the meeting was convened, Henry V. Koonts, Chairman of the Pulpit Committee, read the following recommendations:

"First that The Reverend Roy Edward Watts, D.D., Clarksdale, Mississippi, in whom we have every confidence that he meets the qualifications outlined by you, and is sound in faith, diligent in pastoral duties, a preacher of power and conviction, a Presbyterian of sound judgment, and untiring faithfulness, is the minister whom God in His Wisdom would have us recommend as your Spiritual Leader."

The nomination of Dr. Roy Edward Watts was then made and seconded, and when put to a vote he was unanimously elected as Pastor of the Church. The following call was then ordered sent to him:

"The First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, being on sufficient grounds completely satisfied of the ministerial qualifications of you, Roy Edward Watts, and having good hopes from our knowledge of your labors that your ministrations in the Gospel, will be profitable and beneficial to our Spiritual interests, and having faith in our Lord, the Supreme Head of the Church, that He has led and directed us to seek you, do earnestly call you to undertake the pastoral office in this Congregation, promising you, in the discharge of your duties all proper support, encouragement and obedience in the Lord.

"And that you may be free from worldly cares and avocations, we hereby promise and oblige ourselves to provide you with the following material considerations:

A—A salary of \$8,000.00 per year.

B—\$50.00 per month in addition for automobile expense.

C—A comfortable Manse to be kept in reasonable repair during your occupancy and fuel for heating the same.

D—The Church's proportionate share of Minister's Fund.

E—The expense of moving your furnishings and yourself and family.

"And we do further promise and agree to provide you with the necessary personnel to assist you in continuing a complete pro-

gram of service in our Church to the Lord and Master. We pledge our Loyalty to work with you in promoting all the causes of the Presbyterian Church in the United States."

A Special Session Meeting was called on June 15, 1951, at which time the Chairman of the Pulpit Committee reported that a letter had been received from Dr. Watts accepting the call sent him by The Congregation and that he was planning to be in High Point in time to preach his first sermon on July 22, 1951.

At this same Session Meeting a letter of resignation was read from The Reverend Murphy Wilds, Mission Pastor of the Crestwood and Randolph Churches. He had accepted a call as Minister to the First Presbyterian Church of Senatobia, Mississippi.

At the Session meeting held on the following Sunday a report from Deacon J. Paul Williamson advised that the Manse was being reconditioned and redecorated, looking toward the arrival of the Wattses.

With a grateful heart, to the Giver of All Good and Perfect Gifts, the Congregation eagerly awaited the arrival of Dr. and Mrs. Roy E. Watts. Most of the Congregation had not met them when they had visited in High Point, but when the Wattses reached High Point to live, the Congregation was highly pleased with both Dr. Watts and his charming wife. They recognized in Dr. Watts a personable man, with scholarly ability; a preacher of power and conviction, and a man diligent in his pastoral duties.

When Dr. Watts came as pastor of the Church the following members were Leaders and Staff Members: Noble T. Praigg was Vice-Moderator of the Session and Superintendent of the Sunday School—Henry V. Koonts was Clerk of the Session—John A. Womack was Chairman of the Diaconate—C. R. Wilcox was Church Treasurer—Archie Newton was Chairman of the Board of Associate Deacons—Kenneth Redman was President of the Men of the Church and Mrs. Henry V. Koonts was President of The Women of the Church. And, the Church Staff was composed of Henry Whipple, Minister of Music; Miss Lillie Mae La Garde, Church Secretary; Mrs. Caroline B. Reynolds, Business Secretary; Miss Elizabeth Cooper, Weekday Kindergarten Director; Mrs. S. T. Buie, Hostess and Dietitian; Mrs. Thresser Peguse, Maid, and Robert Avery, Sexton.

On July 26, 1951, an adjourned meeting of Orange Presbytery was held in this Church for the purpose of receiving Dr. Roy Ed-

ward Watts as a new minister into the Presbytery and to appoint a Commission to install him in his new charge. The date set for this installation service was September 9, 1951, at 7:30 P. M.

The day for the installation of Dr. Watts as our pastor arrived and before the services, a 6:30 P. M., dinner was given by the Elders and their wives in the Church Dining Hall, honoring Dr. and Mrs. Watts, and the Commission from Orange Presbytery. To this dinner also was invited the entire Church Staff.

Promptly at 7:30 P. M., September 9, 1951, the Installation Service for Dr. Roy Edward Watts began. The Reverend Marion S. Huske, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Reidsville, was Chairman of the Commission, and asked the Constitutional Questions—The Reverend John A. Redhead, D.D., Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, preached the sermon—The Reverend J.P.H. McNatt, of The Brentwood Presbyterian Church, charged the Pastor—Mr. W. H. Sullivan, Elder in The Church of the Covenant, Greensboro, Charged the Congregation—The Reverend Julian Lake, D.D., from the Winston-Salem Presbytery, and Pastor of The First Presbyterian Church of Winston-Salem, read the Scripture—and Elder Fred Carlson, from The First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, acted as Clerk of the Commission.

The whole installation service was impressive, but made especially so when the whole body of Church officers—both Elders and Deacons, arose and went forward, at the conclusion of The Charge to the Congregation, and individually pledged their support to the new pastor, in helping him carry out the work of the Kingdom in the High Point Church.

When the Installation Service was completed, Dr. Watts, using an impressive ritual, installed Miss Anne Matthews Jones, of Greenwood, South Carolina, as Director of Religious Education.

In August, word had come to the Church concerning the critical illness of Dr. Orin Conway Williamson. Because the Church Session recognized that the Williamsons were having terrific medical and hospital expenses, they voted to send them a love gift from the Congregation. The gift thus taken amounted to \$2,019.50.

On September 23, 1951, a letter of resignation from Miss Lillie Mae La Garde was received. She had accepted a position as Children's Work Counselor, and Church Secretary, at the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Virginia. The Session accepted Miss La Garde's resignation with regrets, and voted to

give her an extra check in appreciation for her services, when she left.

On October 19, 1951, news of the death of Dr. Williamson came to sadden the Church Membership.

The entire month of October was observed as Loyalty Month.

At a congregational meeting held on December 9, 1951, elders for the Class of 1957 (changed to Class of 1956 later, due to change in Church calendar-year) were elected: Dr. W. H. Flythe, James H. Hogg, Griffith Miles, Howard R. Pancoast, and W. F. Robbinette.

In November, as was the annual custom, The Gleaners Class conducted the campaign for the Thanksgiving Offering which went to Barium Springs Orphanage.

On December 16, 1951, twelve members of the Communicants Class were received into the membership of the church.

On January 13, 1952, deacons to fill vacancies, and for the Class of 1957 (changed to Class of 1956 later, due to change in Church calendar-year) were elected: Archie Newton, Dr. Sam T. Hart, H. D. Sears, Jr., P. Hunter Dalton, IV, Davis Smith, and W. H. Kimery.

At a regular monthly meeting of the Session held on January 2, 1952, a signed copy of the Living Trust Fund Agreement, executed by Mr. R. B. Terry, naming the First Presbyterian Church of High Point as beneficiary, to receive a net income from the Perpetual Trust Fund to be used for general operating expenses of the Church, was received.

From October 1, 1951, Mrs. Hazel G. Long had served as temporary Church Secretary. On February 1, 1952, a Church Secretary—Mrs. Eleanor Glenn—had been employed and Mrs. Long was released from her work as temporary Church Secretary.

At the monthly meeting of The Session held on February 6, 1952, Dr. Watts advised the elders that Henry C. Brockmann, son of Elder and Mrs. Harry L. Brackmann, and a student at Davidson College, was applying to be taken under the care of Orange Presbytery as a candidate for the ministry. The application of Henry was unanimously approved and ordered filed with Orange Presbytery.

On February 3, 1952, Dr. Sandy Marks and Family, Missionaries to Africa, were Church guests, and he was a speaker at a Family Night Supper.

At the monthly meeting of the Session held in March, Elder

C. M. Garrison presented a list of seventy-three names to be voted on as Associate Deacons for the Church year beginning in April.

At a Session meeting held on Sunday, March 9, 1952, a motion was made and carried that a coordinating committee be formed to define the duties of various members of the Church Staff and their relation to the Pastor. This committee was also to act as an advisory committee to the Pastor. It was then approved that this committee should be composed of the Vice-Moderator of the Session—Chairman of the Board of Deacons—and President of the Women of the Church.

At the close of the church year, March 31, 1952, Henry V. Koonts' term as elder, under the rotary system expired. He had served efficiently as Clerk of the Session, since the death of Elder W. A. Hayes, so it was with reluctance that the Session elected another Clerk, Elder C. S. McGahey, to succeed him.

Pre-Easter Services were held in the Church April 8-11, 1952, with Dr. Julian Lake, Pastor of The First Presbyterian Church of Winston-Salem, as guest minister on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. On Thursday evening Communion Services were conducted by Dr. Watts, and on Friday, Union Services of the Main Street Churches were held in our Church.

At a Congregational meeting held on June 29, 1952, it was decided to add additional Sunday School facilities to the Church. A committee was appointed to make a study of how this should be done. In due time this committee recommended that an Educational Building be erected, and that the following Building Committee be appointed: Jack W. Southerland, Chairman; Mrs. Tom Marlowe, Mrs. Sanders Dallas, Pickett Montgomery, H. D. Sears, Jr., P. H. Dalton, III, and Howard Pancoast; and also a Special Financial Committee: G. E. Hutchens, Chairman; Co-Chairmen E. B. Gamble and C. M. Allred; V. W. Idol, Jr., Treasurer; W. Stanley Davis, D. W. Hunter, A. M. Rankin, Jr., and J. Williard Thomas, Sr.

On November 15, 1952, the Corner Stone Laying of the New Educational Building was held.

On Sunday September 6, 1953, a General Campaign to raise funds for financing the Educational Building was conducted with C. M. Allred, Chairman, and the officers of the Church as Workers. As a result of this Campaign the pledges amounted to \$29,181.00.

On June 6, 1954, an Educational Building, housing the Bartlett Memorial Room, was completed and Consecration Services were

held in it at 4:00 P. M. This service was followed by an Open House.

The original contract for the Educational Building was \$98,102.39, but with the furnishings and architect fees, it reached a total of \$104,707.99. Then there was added to this the cost of improvements in the main church building which ran the total monies spent up to approximately \$126,000.00.

In late spring, 1952, Mrs. Eleanor W. Glenn resigned as Church Secretary, and Miss Marian Maness (now Mrs. Hal A. Davis, Jr.) was elected as her successor. On June 8, Miss Anne Jones, Director of Religious Education, resigned and returned to her home in Greenwood, South Carolina.

In the fall of 1952, the Church cooperated in the Mid-Century-Development-Program of the Union Theological Seminary and individual members pledged a sizeable amount of money to the Campaign.

On December 7, 1952, the following elders were elected to the Class of 1957: J. E. Beeson, I. Paul Ingle, Henry V. Koonts, H. P. Morrison, and W. F. Robinette.

On January 18, 1953, the following deacons were elected to the Class of 1957: C. M. Allred, Carl A. Bailey, E. B. Gamble, Kenneth Redman, Cecil Wilcox, and H. O. Williams.

At the Pre-Easter Services held during 1953, the guest minister for Tuesday evening was Dr. John K. Roberts, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Danville, Virginia. On Wednesday evening Dr. John A. Redhead, Jr., Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, was guest minister. Dr. Watts conducted the Communion Services on Thursday evening, and on Good Friday City-wide Union Services were held in the Emanuel Lutheran Church.

The Special Mother's Day Offering in May, 1953, went to the Presbyterian Home.

Earlier General Assembly had changed the Presbyterian Church-Year to run with the calendar-year beginning with January 1, 1954.

On October 25, 1953, a Congregational meeting was held for the purpose of electing elders for the Class of 1958. The following Elders were elected: George E. Hutchens, Vernon W. Idol, Jr., Edward S. Maclin, Earnest H. McCall, and R. D. Tillson.

Deacons for the Class of 1958: Sanders Dallas, Sam H. Groce, John W. Herndon, D. W. Hunter, Tyree Nabors, and George E. White.

Special Offering for World Missions in 1954 was \$578.42.

The Pre-Easter Services for the year 1954, had as its guest ministers The Reverend John E. Richards, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Roanoke, Virginia, on Tuesday evening, April 13, and Dr. Harry M. Moffett, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Gastonia, North Carolina, on Wednesday evening, April 14. Dr. Watts conducted the Communion Services on Thursday evening and the Congregation joined in the City-wide Union Services on Good Friday.

Early in the month of May, 1954, Miss Jean Moling came to us as Director of Christian Education, and on September 12 of the same year, Mrs. Charles A. Johnson, a graduate of Winthrop College, Rock Hill, South Carolina, became Church Secretary.

At a Congregational meeting held on May 23, 1954, after the Morning Worship Service, the Trustees were authorized to deed to the City of High Point, a tract of land on Main Street (the frontage on the 60' Montsinger lot), to be used by the City for sidewalks and parking space, and to also sign a deed transferring the Randolph Church Property to the Trustees of Orange Presbytery.

At a Congregational meeting held on September 12, 1954, Elders for the Class of 1959 were elected as follows: Dr. Harry L. Brockmann, H. L. Brown, Charles W. Perry, Frank B. Smith, and Charles E. Stuart.

Deacons elected for the Class of 1959, at the October 3, 1954, Congregational meeting were: R. G. Culp, Jr., J. C. Kaneer, Z. P. Long, and Alva B. Newton.

During the week of March 20-25, 1955, a series of Evangelistic Services were held in the church with The Reverend Joel B. Whitten Jr., Pastor of the Knox Presbyterian Church of Norfolk, Virginia, preaching.

Assisting in the Pre-Easter Services, April 5-9, 1955, Dr. A. Hayden Hollingsworth, Pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church of Roanoke, Virginia, was guest speaker at the Tuesday evening service, and Dr. Malcom Murchison, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Concord, North Carolina, at the Wednesday evening services. Dr. Watts conducted Thursday Communion Service, and the Church joined in the City-wide Union Services on Good Friday.

On April 17, 1955, Dr. C. Excelle Rozzelle filled the Church Pulpit, in the absence of the Pastor who was conducting a series of Evangelistic Services in Virginia.



ELDERS (1959)

Left to right, *Front Row Seated*: Harold P. Morrison, Charles E. Stuart, Charles W. Perry, Frank B. Smith, Roy E. Watts, D.D. (Minister), Dr. Harry Brockmann, C. A. McMurray, Harry L. Brown; *Second Row Seated*: D. Waring Smith, Hal A. Davis, W. W. Lentz, Howard R. Pancoast, Harry A. Alexander, Ernest H. McCall, A. M. Rankin, Jr., Henry V. Koons, George C. Connor; *Back Row Standing*: Samuel N. Thomas (Assistant Minister), Clyde M. Garrison, John W. Southerland, Willard H. Kimrey, Richard A. Short, Charles S. McGahey, Dr. W. H. Flythe, J. Ed Pleasants, John W. Herndon, John A. Womack, Charles E. Plummer, James H. Hogg, J. E. Beeson, Vernon W. Idol, Jr., J. Sanders Dallas.

On September 13, 1955, Mrs. George Washington Denny passed to her eternal reward leaving her home at 504 Hillcrest Drive to the Brentwood Presbyterian Church and The First Presbyterian Church to share and share alike—an undivided interest between the two churches.

At a Congregational meeting held October 9, 1955, Elders for Class of 1960 were elected: George C. Connor, Sr., Hal A. Davis, W. W. Lentz, and D. Waring Smith. Deacons for Class of 1960: Carlyle B. Lewis, Richard D. Meisky, J. H. McCall, E. J. Oglesby, B. Guy Shivers, and Richard A. Short. The Session then appointed 28 associate deacons for the Class of 1955 and the same number for the Class of 1956.

To assist Dr. Watts with the Pre-Easter Services March 27-28, 1956, The Reverend Lawrence I. Stell, D.D., Pastor of the Trinity Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, N. C., came to be guest minister at the Tuesday evening service. The Reverend C. Grier Davis, D.D.,



DIACONATE (1959)

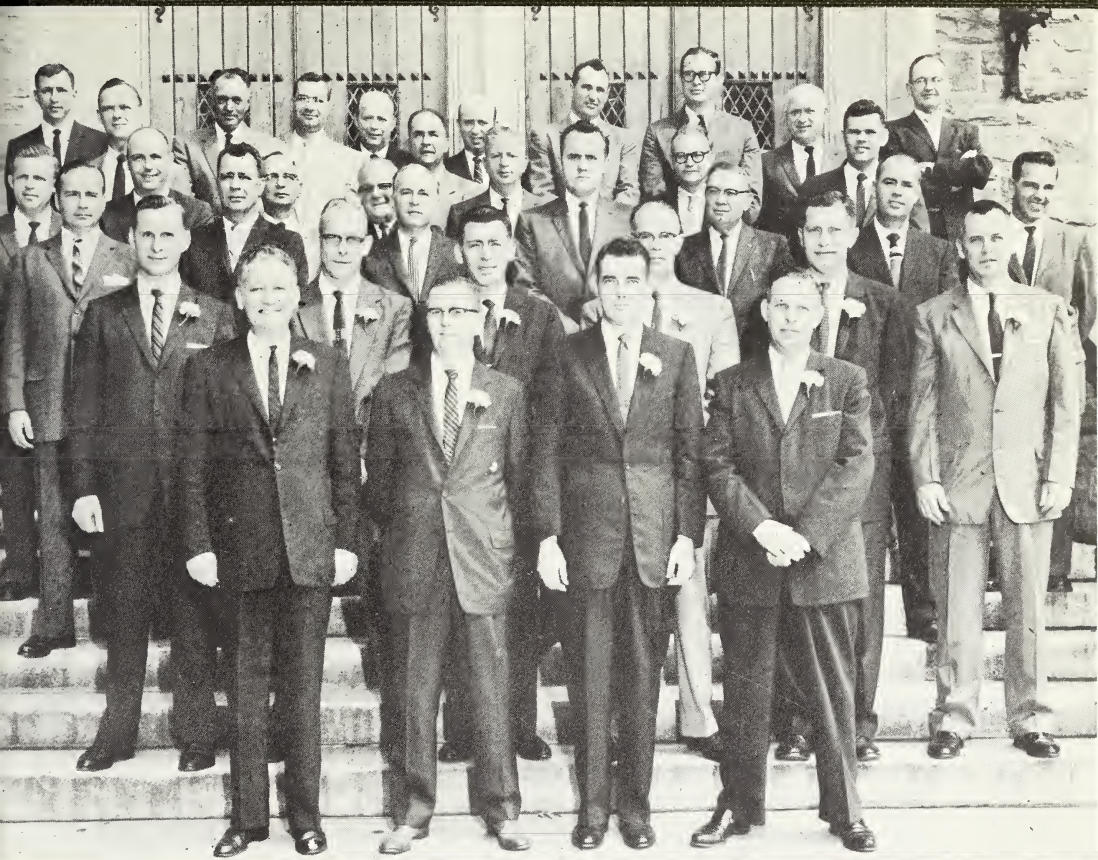
Seated first row left to right: C. A. Varner, Jr., Robert H. Koonts, Dr. A. B. Croom, Pleasant Hunter Dalton, IV, Chairman; Charlie Spencer, Carl A. Bailey, Clarence Allred; *Seated second row left to right:* J. Paul Williamson, V. M. Huffman, Kenneth Redman, Cecil R. Wilcox, Carlyle B. Lewis, C. P. Kirkman, Jr., Harry E. Rothrock, Jr.; *Standing left to right:* W. S. Creech, E. J. Oglesby, Richard D. Meisky, Z. P. Long, Dr. Sam T. Hart, Joseph G. Hunt, J. C. Kaneer, W. D. Smith, Max H. Cooke.

Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Asheville, N. C., was guest minister at the Wednesday evening service. Dr. Watts conducted the Communion Service on Thursday evening, and the Good Friday Service was observed with Union Service of the City-wide churches.

Miss Elizabeth Cooper resigned as Kindergarten Director with the close of the school year, May, 1956, and Mrs. Grady H. Whicker was elected as her successor.

In May, 1956, the special Mother's Day offering went to the Presbyterian Home, and the special offering taken on June 3, to Montreat.

During the Month of June, 1956, a Campaign was conducted in the Church for the purpose of raising funds for the Consolidated Presbyterian College that was to be built at Laurinburg, North Carolina. The quota for the Church was \$34,800. After much



ASSOCIATE DEACONS (1959)

Left to right, *Front Row*: William E. Wyche, D. Tom Blue, Jr., Howard E. Lowe, George A. Cooke; *Second Row*: Robert H. Safrit, Andrew H. Smith, E. C. Rankin, Jr., Frank B. Caldwell, Robert I. Helm, J. G. Walser, Jr.; *Third Row*: Charles W. Crotts, T. Bruce Alexander, Vann A. Nealeans, Gillis G. Clark, Jr., George Covington, C. Howard Stutts, Winford L. Hinkle; *Fourth Row*: James S. Hunt, Marion C. Rowland, Jr., George F. Ingold, William T. Davis, A. Doyle Early, Arthur P. Dickens, J. B. Cottingham; *Fifth Row*: B. E. Connor, Henry A. Whitfield, Jr., C. G. Thayer, Kenneth G. Mann, James W. McAfee, Ray A. Correll, V. Douglas Massey, H. William Hager, Jr., P. A. Thomas, E. B. Collins, Joseph D. Wood.

campaigning this quota was pledged. Our reaching the quota was indeed gratifying, for on previous campaigns for funds for Peace College, Raleigh; Flora Macdonald College, Red Springs, and Queens College, Charlotte, our goal was not reached.

In August 1956, Mrs. Charles A. Johnson resigned as Church Secretary to move with her husband to Hampton, Virginia, where he would be associated with the city schools. Mrs. Lawrence H. Mallard was then secured for the position of Church Secretary.

Elders elected in October for the Class of 1961: Harry A. Alexander, Sr., Clyde M. Garrison, W. H. Kimsey, A. M. Rankin, Jr., and C. S. McGahey.

Deacons elected for the 1961 Class: John W. Southerland, W. D. Lemons, J. Paul Williamson, V. M. Huffman, Robert Koonts, and Charles E. Plummer.

On March 24, 1957, Mrs. Caroline B. Reynolds, the Business Secretary of the Church, tendered her resignation effective April 16th. Her resignation was accepted with regret and the Session wrote and expressed its appreciation of the efficient way with which she had discharged her duties as a member of the Church Staff.

On Sunday March 31, 1957, a Musical Vesper Service was held at the Church with Richard Cox, tenor; Lew Lewis, violinist; and Henry Whipple, Church Minister of Music, at the organ.

The Pre-Easter Services, April 16-17, 1957, were held with Dr. E. Lee Stoffel, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Charlotte, North Carolina, as guest minister on Tuesday evening, and Dr. Sidney A. Gates, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Salisbury, North Carolina, guest minister on Wednesday evening. On Thursday evening Dr. Watts conducted the Communion Service, and as customary, the Congregation joined in the Good Friday City-wide Union Services.

On Tuesday April 16, 1957, Mrs. O. Arnold Craven, Jr., joined the Church Staff as Business Secretary. She came with a good record of past work, having served the First Baptist Church of the City for several years prior to resigning to be at home.

Mrs. Grady H. Wicker resigned as Kindergarten Director and Mrs. W. B. Hall, Jr., substituted as Director of the Kindergarten until Mrs. Jeanne Kline Mallory was employed.

Miss Patsy Hogg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Hogg, served on the Church Staff for the summer of 1957. She was a student at Queens College working towards being a Director of Christian Education.

In August from 1-7, Mr. Henry Whipple served on the Advisory Committee of the Music Conference at Montreat.

On September 15, 1957, the Congregation welcomed The Reverend Samuel N. Thomas, his wife, and two children to the Church. He would be listed on the Church Staff as Minister of Education and Assistant Pastor. He came to us from his pastorate at Acme, North Carolina.

In the month of October, 1957, the Church sent Dr. and Mrs. Watts to the Presbyterian Men's Conference held in Miami, Florida. Fourteen other members of the Church attended this same meeting.



THE PRESENT HOME OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Elders for the Class of 1962 elected in the fall of 1957 were: Dr. W. H. Flythe, James H. Hogg, Howard R. Pancoast, J. Ed Pleasants, Richard A. Short, and John A. Womack.

Deacons elected to this same Class were: Dr. A. B. Croom, P. Hunter Dalton, IV, Dr. S. T. Hart, C. P. Kirkman, Jr., H. D. Sears, Jr., and C. A. Varner, Jr.

Associate Deacons for year 1958-59, appointed by the Session numbered 39.

Dr. Julian Lake, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and Dr. Kelsey Regen, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Durham, North Carolina, and Moderator-elect of Synod, came as guest minister for the Pre-Easter Services held during 1958. Dr. Lake preached on Tuesday evening, and Dr. Regen on Wednesday. Dr. Watts conducted the Communion Service on Thursday evening, and the Church joined in attending City-wide Union Services on Good Friday.

Early in January of the year 1958, Dr. Watts brought to the attention of the Session that on September 3, 1959, the Church would be one hundred years old, and that a suitable celebration should be planned to commemorate the Church's Birthday. The following Centennial Committees were later appointed by the Session, to begin making arrangements for a whole year of celebrating:

CENTENNIAL COMMITTEES

PLEASANT HUNTER DALTON, JR., *General Chairman*

ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

P. HUNTER DALTON, JR., <i>Chm.</i>	MRS. WILLARD H. KIMREY
J. SANDERS DALLAS	JAMES W. MCAFEE
MRS. CLYDE M. GARRISON	FRANK B. SMITH
KAY IDOL	H. CHARLES SPENCER
ROY E. WATTS, <i>Ex-Officio</i>	
SAMUEL N. THOMAS, <i>Ex-Officio</i>	

HISTORICAL RECORDS

MRS. CHARLES W. PERRY, <i>Chairman</i>	
CHARLES W. PERRY	MRS. W. A. HAYES
GEORGE C. CONNOR	HENRY V. KOONTS
R. FRANK DALTON	MRS. G. W. PLEASANTS
D. WARING SMITH	

CENTENNIAL OBJECTIVES

J. SANDERS DALLAS, <i>Chairman</i>	
HAL A. DAVIS	L. H. MALLARD
MRS. W. H. FLYTHE	J. ED PLEASANTS
JOHN W. HERNDON	J. W. SOUTHERLAND
DAVID K. TILLSON	

WOMEN'S EVENTS

MRS. JAMES H. HOGG, <i>Chairman</i>	
MRS. I. PAUL INGLE	MRS. W. W. LENTZ
MRS. T. A. MARLOWE	MRS. H. D. SEARS, JR.

PUBLICITY

CHARLES E. STUART, <i>Chairman</i>	
MRS. P. D. KERR	MRS. ALEX M. RANKIN, JR.
NOBLE T. PRAIGG	MRS. R. B. TERRY

WORSHIP (SPECIAL SERVICES)

CLYDE M. GARRISON, <i>Chairman</i>	
DR. HARRY L. BROCKMANN	MRS. H. P. MORRISON

PICTORIAL RECORDS

VERNON W. IDOL, JR., <i>Chairman</i>	
MRS. J. RICHARD TEAGUE	

A Congregational meeting was held on May 11, 1958, at which time a new Manse was discussed. Some of the members favored building a new one while others thought it might be wise to buy one already built and remodel it. A vote was taken and all that was determined by the vote was the congregation thought another Manse should be obtained. A committee was then named by the Session, and elected by the Congregation: J. Sanders Dallas, J. W. Southerland, Chairman; Harry A. Alexander, Sr., T. H. Nabors, John W. Herndon, and Mrs. W. H. Kimrey, to secure a Manse.

Mrs. Lawrence Mallard filed her resignation as Church Secretary with the Session. She gave as her reason for resigning that she had accepted work to teach in the Business Department of the City schools.

On Monday, July 7, 1958, Miss Amelia Stockton of Winston-Salem, a June graduate from the Women's College, Greensboro, North Carolina, came to us as Church Secretary. On August 2, 1958, she became Mrs. Henry Thomas Kimball, Jr.

In September Elder Howard R. Pancoast were elected a Trustee for the Class of 1962, and Elder Harry A. Alexander, Sr., for the Class of 1963.

Early in the fall of 1958, Pleasant Hunter Dalton, IV, General Chairman of the Centennial Committee called a meeting of all the committees to get an idea about what the members were thinking should be done during the Centennial year. Several meetings of different committees followed, and tentative plans were made. All of the former living pastors and wives of pastors were to be invited back, and special bulletins for the year were to be prepared, as well as a special Brochure. The first one of the bulletins was to carry a pen and ink sketch of an old oak tree—the first place of worship for the High Point Presbyterians—the next bulletin, a pen and ink sketch of the first church building—the third bulletin a pen and ink sketch of the second church building—and the fourth bulletin a sketch of the third church building, the present church home. These sketches were to be done by four architects, who were members of the Church: W. Clayton Mays, William A. Sloan, Lawrence H. Mallard, and George C. Connor, Jr. Each series to run three months.

On December 21, 1958, a Joy Gift and Candlelight Coral Service was presented in the Sanctuary at 5:00 P. M. The same kind of a beautiful Candlelight Vesper that Mr. Whipple and his combined choirs had given at Christmas time for the past eight years. A Joy Gift for the aged ministers was taken during the interlude,



THE MANSE
213 Hillcrest Drive

and after the Service an Open House was held in the Church Dining Hall.

The year of our Centennial Celebration opened with much planning and hard work ahead for Dr. Watts and the Centennial Committee. It was going to be a big year with the Church, and everything done during the year must be done in the very best way possible.

On January 11, 1959, from 2:00 to 5:00 o'clock P. M., Open House was held in the New Manse, 213 Hillcrest Drive. Mrs. W. W. Lentz, President of the Women of the Church; Mrs. Ruby S. Bencini, Chairman of the House Committee; and Mrs. Tom A. Marlowe, Chairman of Social Activities, were in charge.

Prior to the beginning hour for Open House, the new Manse was dedicated to the Glory of God and the use of the Church's Pastor and his family.

There were many great events to come during the year. The first of these came on January 18, 1959, when Dr. Donald G. Miller, a forceful speaker, a recognized scholar, an author of distinction and Professor of New Testament at the Union Theological Semi-

nary, Richmond, Virginia, came to the Church and taught the Book of Revelations.

The next outstanding event was on January 25, 1959, when The Reverend James E. Fogartie, Minister of the Myers Park Church, Charlotte, North Carolina, came and spoke to the Church Officers on Duties, Responsibilities and Qualifications of Church officers.

On February 4, 1959, at 6:30 P. M., there was held in the Church dining hall a Family Night Supper, one of the special programs observing our period of Prayer and Self Denial. At this time Dr. "Sandy" Marks, one of our Missionaries to Africa, was guest speaker. Dr. Marks is a dentist, and had spoken in our Church several years before. All who were privileged to hear him were delighted with his message.

In February 1959, a campaign was conducted in the Church to help raise \$750,000.00, requested by Synod to build an addition to the Presbyterian Home. Elder J. Sanders Dallas was named Chairman of the Solicitation Committee, and the Church raised over \$30,000, which was far in excess of its quota.

The fourth in the bigger than usual, and better events for the year 1959, was the observance of Holy Week. These Pre-Easter Services began on Palm Sunday, March 22nd, with Dr. Hugh Anderson, native of Scotland, and now Professor of Biblical Theology at Duke University, preaching at the Morning Service.

On Monday Evening, March 23, 1959, at the meeting of the Men of the Church, Dr. Chester A. Alexander, Moderator-elect of Synod and Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Burlington, North Carolina, was speaker.

Tuesday evening, March 24th, Dr. John A. Redhead, Jr., Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, North Carolina, was guest minister.

On Wednesday evening, March 25th, Mr. Phillip F. Howerton, Moderator of General Assembly, was speaker.

On Thursday evening, March 26th, our own Pastor, Dr. Roy Edward Watts conducted the Communion Service, which was attended by an unusually large crowd.

On Good Friday, March 27th, the Church joined with other churches of the City in a City-wide Union Service.

Unusual efforts were put out by the Congregation during our Loyalty Season held during the month of April, and the results were seen in attendance of the services during the month.

During the month of May a special drive for Overseas Relief was held. As a result of this special drive there was sent 596 pounds of good, used clothing to New Windsor, Maryland, to be forwarded to needy European countries.

On May 17, 1959, Dr. Kenneth J. Foreman, professor of Theology at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, was guest minister at the 11:00 o'clock Worship Service.

On Monday evening, May 25 at 6:30 o'clock, the Men of the Church held Ladies Night at which time Dr. James Appleby, Professor of Evangelism and Director of Field Work at Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia, was guest speaker.

June 7, 1959, was observed as Montreat Day and the Special Offering taken at the Morning Worship went to Montreat.

In the month of July—the week-end of July 12th, The Reverend and Mrs. Howard D. Cameron, with their three fine children were special guests of the Church. The Reverend and Mrs. Cameron are Presbyterian Missionaries to Bulape, Belgian Congo, Africa, and our Congregation has the privilege of sharing in the support of them. The Reverend Cameron was guest minister at the Morning Worship Hour; with Mrs. Cameron and him speaking to other organizations of the Church during the day.

From 5:00 to 6:00 P. M., on that same Sunday, a reception was given by The Women of the Church in the Church dining hall, honoring the Camerons.

From the time of the departure of the Camerons on, Dr. and Mrs. Watts, Mrs. Amelia S. Kimball, Church Secretary, and General Chairman of the Centennial Committee, Pleasant Hunter Dalton, IV, were more than busy working out the many details for the final Centennial Celebrations which were to be held on Thursday evening, September 3, 1959, and Sunday, September 6, 1959. Besides writing letters on the beautiful Centennial stationery, which had been given by Elder and Mrs. Frank B. Smith, keeping the Church membership informed on how things were progressing, there were the thousand-and-one details that had to be worked out for the Special Bulletin for the Thursday evening, September 3rd Service, and the beautiful Brochure for Sunday Morning Service, September 6, 1959.



Ministers, Chairman of Centennial Committee, and Choir at evening service on September 3, 1959.

The Reverend and Mrs. Charles P. Coble, and The Reverend and Mrs. Paul Tudor Jones, D.D., former Pastors of the Church came as special guests, and were graciously entertained along with the wives of two of our deceased Pastors, Mrs. Alfred S. Caldwell, Sr., and Mrs. Orin Conway Williamson.

The first service of this great Centennial Celebration was held in the Church Sanctuary on September 3 and it was as follows:

EVENING WORSHIP

SEVEN-THIRTY O'CLOCK

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1959

OUR 100TH BIRTHDAY

"Let the people upon entering the church take their seats in a decent, grave, and reverent manner, and engage in silent prayer for a blessing upon themselves, the minister and all present, as well as upon those who are detained from the house of God."

PRELUDE—Prelude on "St. Columba" Kitson

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP Vesper Hymn
"Now on land and sea descending brings the night its peace profound"

DOXOLOGY

INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Reverend Samuel N. Thomas
Assistant Minister

* * * * *

HYMN 435—"I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" St. Thomas

APOSTLES' CREED AND GLORIA PATRI

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

* * * * *

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Bantock

Let us now praise famous men and our fathers that begat us: Such as did bear rule in their kingdoms, men renowned for their power, leaders of the people by their counsels and by their knowledge, such as found out musical tunes and recited verses in writing. All these were honored in their generations, and were the glory of their times. There be of them that have left a name behind them that their praises might be reported. And some there be which have no memorial who are perished as though they had never been. Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name liveth forever.

THE SCRIPTURE READING Reverend George V. Hunter
Minister, Randolph Presbyterian Church

PRAYER Reverend J. P. H. McNatt
Minister, Brentwood Presbyterian Church

REMARKS Pleasant Hunter Dalton, Jr.
Chairman, Centennial Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. Roy E. Watts

HYMN 111—"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" St. Anne

THE SERMON Reverend Charles P. Coble

HYMN 238—"Seal Us, O Holy Spirit" Meredith

BENEDICTION Reverend W. M. Baker
Minister, Crestwood Presbyterian Church

CHORAL AMEN Hall



Centennial Congregation at Evening Service on September 3, 1959.

WHOEVER thou art that entereth this Church, leave it not without a prayer to God for thyself, for those who minister, and for those who worship here.

THE FLOWERS tonight have been placed in the church by the Session to the Glory of God and in loving memory of deceased ministers and officers who served loyally and faithfully as leaders of this church.

This opening Service of the Centennial Celebration was followed by a beautiful reception in the Church Dining Room honoring Reverend and Mrs. Charles P. Coble, Mrs. O. C. Williamson, and Mrs. A. S. Caldwell.

On Sunday Morning, September 6, the winds blew and the rain descended but it could not dampen the enthusiasm of the Church membership. To this Service there came more than a capacity crowd, and while the picnic had to be held inside, there was more than an abundance of food for all.

The Morning Worship Service Program was as follows:

MORNING WORSHIP

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1959

"Let the people upon entering the church take their seats in a decent, grave, and reverent manner, and engage in silent prayer for a blessing upon themselves, the minister and all present, as well as upon those who are detained from the house of God."

PRELUDE—"Prelude in D Minor" Johann Pachelbel

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP Nicolaus Decius
 To God on high be thanks and praise
 Who deigns our bonds to sever.

DOXOLOGY

INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Reverend Samuel N. Thomas
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HYMN 437—"The Church's One Foundation" Aurelia

APOSTLES' CREED AND GLORIA PATRI

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

* * * * *

THE SCRIPTURE READING Reverend Charles P. Coble

PRIVATE PRAYER—as chimes are played

PASTORAL PRAYER Dr. Roy E. Watts

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Gustav Holst

We praise Thee, O God; we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship Thee, the Father everlasting. To Thee all angels cry aloud; the heavens and all the powers therein. To Thee cherubim and seraphim continually do cry, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glory." The glorious company of the apostles praise Thee; the goodly fellowship of the prophets praise Thee; the noble army of martyrs praise Thee; the holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge Thee; the Father, of an infinite majesty; thine adorable, true, and only Son; also the Holy Ghost, the Comforter. Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ; Thou art the everlasting Son of the Father. When Thou tookest upon Thee to deliver man, Thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb. When Thou hadst overcome the sharpness of death, Thou didst open the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers. Thou sittest at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that Thou shalt come to be our judge.

HYMN 369—"How Firm a Foundation" *Adeste Fideles*

THE SERMON Dr. Paul Tudor Jones

HYMN 332—"Lead On, O King Eternal" *Lancashire*

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE Peter C. Lutkin

Many of the Centennial Committees made reports to the General Chairman, P. Hunter Dalton, IV, of the activities of their committee for the one-hundredth birthday celebration of the Church, but there will be recorded here only two of the many things done. These two were accomplished by the Objectives Committee for the Centennial Year. Quoting:

NEW CHURCH. Dr. Harold Hyde of Atlanta, Georgia, has made a complete survey of our area and has indicated that our need is great in locating a church on the Lexington Avenue area or in the North-West Section.

Permission has been granted by the Elders of our church, and a committee has been appointed by them to locate approximately five to six and one-half acres of land that would make a desirable location for such a church.

This committee has been quite active but as yet are not in a position to make a recommendation.

CHURCH HISTORY. This history is to be printed by Hall Printing Company. It covers the period of the past 100 years and pertains to most phases of the church life during that period. Permission has been granted by the Elders for the printing of this book, and it is hoped that delivery can be made about December 15, 1959.

As the sweet memory of having celebrated the One-Hundredth-Birthday fades and a thoughtful review is made of the accomplishments of the Church during the past eight years, we find the following serving at the time of the Centennial:

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 3, 1959

THE SESSION

ROY EDWARD WATTS, <i>Moderator</i>	REVEREND SAMUEL N. THOMAS, <i>Vice-Moderator</i>	R. A. SHORT, <i>Clerk</i>
LIFE CLASS —Carter Dalton, George E. Hutchens, C. A. McMurray, Sr., F. Logan Porter, Sr., Noble T. Praigg.	Willard H. Kimrey, C. S. McGahey, A. M. Rankin, Jr.	
CLASS OF 1959 —Dr. H. L. Brockmann, Harry L. Brown, Charles W. Perry, Frank B. Smith, Charles E. Stuart.	CLASS OF 1962 —Dr. W. H. Flythe, James H. Hogg, Howard R. Pancoast, J. Ed Pleasants, Richard A. Short, John A. Womack.	
CLASS OF 1960 —George C. Connor, Hal A. Davis, John W. Herndon, W. W. Lentz, D. Waring Smith.	CLASS OF 1963 —J. E. Beeson, J. Sanders Dallas, I. Paul Ingle, H. P. Morrison, Charles E. Plummer, John W. Southerland.	
CLASS OF 1961 —Harry A. Alexander, Clyde M. Garrison,		

THE DIACONATE (1959)

P. Hunter Dalton, Jr., *Chairman*; Clarence M. Allred, *Vice-Chairman*; Robert H. Koonts, *Secretary*; Dr. A. B. Croom, *Treasurer*

LIFE CLASS —Kenneth Redman, C. A. White.	Rothrock, Jr., J. Paul Williamson.
CLASS OF 1959 —R. G. Culp, Jr., E. B. Gamble, Joseph G. Hunt, J. C. Kaneer, Z. P. Long, Alva B. Newton.	CLASS OF 1962 —Dr. A. B. Croom, P. Hunter Dalton, Jr., Dr. S. T. Hart, C. P. Kirkman, Jr., H. D. Sears, Jr., C. A. Varner, Jr.
CLASS OF 1960 —Carlyle B. Lewis, Richard D. Meisky, J. H. McCall, E. J. Oglesby, B. Guy Shivers, Cecil R. Wilcox.	CLASS OF 1963 —Carl A. Bailey, Max H. Cooke, Dr. Kenneth M. Cheek, W. S. Creech, W. D. Smith, H. Charles Spencer.
CLASS OF 1961 —Clarence M. Allred, V. M. Huffman, Robert H. Koonts, W. D. Lemons, Harry E.	

ASSOCIATE DEACONS

(Appointed by the Session January 1, 1959)

William E. Wyche, *Chairman*; D. Tom Blue, Jr., Howard E. Lowe, and George A. Cooke, *Co-Chairmen*;
Ralph Gurley, *Secretary-Treasurer*

CLASS OF 1959

D. T. Blue, Jr.
Frank B. Caldwell
Gillis G. Clark, Jr.
E. B. Collins
Carl W. Connor
James S. Conrad
Ray A. Correll
R. B. Courts, Jr.
Wilbur M. Currie
Arthur P. Dickens
Ralph Gurley
H. William Hager, Jr.
Robert I. Helm
Dr. Elliott McK. Hester
E. J. Holbrook, Sr.
James S. Hunt
C. A. Hustrulid
Bill T. Hylton
George F. Ingold
Vann A. Nealeans
Dr. Earl W. Schafer
William A. Sloan
Andrew H. Smith
Frank W. Wall
J. G. Walser, Jr.
N. C. Weisbecker
J. Gilbert White
William E. Wyche

CLASS OF 1960

Dr. E. A. Bencini
Hobert M. Bryant
George O. Collins
J. B. Cottingham
George Covington
Charles W. Crotts
Richard B. Culler
R. Frank Dalton
William T. Davis
A. Doyle Early
J. H. Everington
Robert A. Gross
Victor F. Harlee
Winford L. Hinkle
John G. Hutchens
Robert L. Hutchens
James C. Lipscomb
Howard E. Lowe
William Clayton Mays
D. P. Mervine
Felix F. Miller, Jr.
E. T. McInnis
W. S. McKinney
E. C. Rankin, Jr.
E. J. Robinson
Robert H. Safrit
John W. Thomas, Jr.
William M. Webster
Joseph D. Wood

CLASS OF 1961

T. Bruce Alexander
S. O. Bailey
R. E. Bencini, Jr.
William S. Bencini
Albin R. Bernot
B. L. Boyles
B. E. Connor
George C. Connor, Jr.
George A. Cooke
Dr. R. V. Cross
W. S. Hayes
John B. Hayward
W. Clarence Herndon
Dr. Gilman W. Hertz
Herman J. Hunter
Dr. John F. Lynch, Jr.
James W. McAfee
Kenneth G. Mann
V. Douglas Massey
C. Joseph Mishler
Marion C. Rowland, Jr.
Lloyd E. Small
Davis H. Smith
Joe E. Spearman
C. Howard Stutts
C. G. Thayer
P. A. Thomas
C. H. Williard, Jr.
Henry A. Whitfield, Jr.

TRUSTEES

J. Sanders Dallas Chairman Harry A. Alexander Secretary
D. E. Headen I. Paul Ingle
Howard R. Pancoast

THE CHURCH STAFF

Roy Edward Watts, D.D. Minister Mrs. O. Arnold Craven, Jr.
Samuel N. Thomas, B.D., Assistant Pastor Business Secretary
and Minister of Education Mrs. Jeanne K. Mallory
Henry Whipple Minister of Music Weekday Kindergarten
Mrs. Amelia S. Kimball Church Secretary Mrs. S. T. Buie Church Hostess
Robert Avery Sexton
Mrs. Thresser Peguse Maid

MISSIONARIES

MEXICO
Dr. and Mrs. J. Hervey Ross

BELGIAN CONGO
Reverend and Mrs. Howard D. Cameron

And, it may also be seen that during this period of time we have advanced both materially and spiritually. The Church has made great strides, and things have happened during this time that have brought both peace and sadness. Thinking of the things that have brought sadness to our church life, we must admit that they are primarily the passing of devout loved ones from our Church membership. The names of most of these can only be recorded in our memories, but it is fitting to record here the names of a beloved former pastor, and six of our devout elders.

On October 19, 1951, Dr. Orin Conway Williamson, a former Pastor of the Church passed to his eternal reward, and on the following recorded dates, six of the Church elders passed to theirs: On August 20, 1952, Elder H. P. Hardin; On January 30, 1955, Elder Edward S. Maclin; On April 24, 1957, Elder Griffith Miles; On January 15, 1958, Elder Frank Wineskie; On August 26, 1958, Elder E. M. Shipman; and on November 5, 1958, Elder Vernon W. Idol, Sr.

Many of the material blessings we have enjoyed in the Church from 1951-1959 are bequests from Fred J. and Ruby N. Bartlett who directed that money from their estate be used for the erection of a chapel, and subsequently a room in the new Educational Building Addition was named the Bartlett Chapel; Randall B. Terry established the R. B. Terry Fund, the income from which is applied on our annual budget; William Stanley Davis, Griffith Miles, Mrs. G. W. Denny, and Ella Gantt White also remembered their church in their wills; and their contributions have been used for the ongoing of the Kingdom.

For all of these material things we give thanks, but the most blessed and far reaching things for which we should give thanks are the intangible things the Church has accomplished. These intangibles we believe are those pertaining to our Spiritual Growth and the Advancement of His Kingdom here on earth—things which may not readily be seen now, but which will be revealed in the future—these are the results of what the Evangelism Committee under the guidance of Dr. Watts, which has met bi-weekly and gone out inviting others to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior, has done—the results of the work that is yet to be done by those five fine young people in our membership who have dedicated their lives to full time Christian Service. These girls and boys are: Miss Anita Withers, who graduated from the Assembly's Training School, Richmond, Virginia, in May, 1955; Henry C. Brockmann, Joe G. Walser, III, and Tony Wen, Jr., who are now Ministerial Students; and Miss Patsy Hogg, who this year will complete her college work at Queens College, Charlotte, North Carolina, and in the fall of 1960 enter the Assembly's Training School, Richmond, Virginia, to study for a degree of Director of Christian Education.

Today at the close of the First Century, the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, North Carolina, moves forward on a high Spiritual plane—a plane that carries with it an eager willingness, it seems, on the part of each Church Member to cooperate with Dr. Watts in any program he deems wise to present.

The Church, when it was founded, boasted a membership of eleven, two of which were elders, and one a deacon. Today this same Church boasts a membership of more than 1,211 (eleven being the membership when the Church was founded), thirty-two elders, thirty-two deacons, and eighty-four associate deacons. And, from the single basket collections taken on the days the Church held Services, the monies taken in today exceed \$133,300.00 annually.

Today we gaze confidently into the future, with assurance of receiving the same Providential care which has marked the passing century for us. We now fervently pray: May the Hand of Almighty God, which has so understandingly led us in the past, lead on—lead on bestowing His continued blessing on us, and upon all of those who follow in our footsteps.

“O where are kings and empires now
Of old that went and came?
But, Lord, Thy Church is Praying yet—
A thousand years the same.”



BIOGRAPHY AND APPRECIATION

of

THE REVEREND ROY EDWARD WATTS, D.D.

by

NOBLE T. PRAIGG

As our Book of Church Order points out, a church ministry involves many more functions than appear to the congregational eye. Ecclesiastically, the minister bears nine distinct responsibilities ranging from duties which affect the congregation as a whole to countless and intensely personal instances of guidance and spiritual uplift for individual church members.

Since Dr. Watts became pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in July, 1951, he has carried forward all phases of his mission with distinction, leading the church to advancement, bringing added impetus to the religious lives of the membership, participating in community activities and fulfilling many responsibilities in the broader areas of presbytery, synod and General Assembly. In interpreting the living spirit of the Bible, both theologically and as it applies to today's affairs, it is as if he were modernizing and emphasizing Calvin's original philosophy, that "All wisdom, if it is to be called true, full wisdom, consists in the knowledge of God and in the knowledge of ourselves. Both are interwoven. . . ." And as Dr. Watts blends a consecrated pastoral purpose with his innate love of people, the church goes forward steadily in its constructive service.

But mention of his accomplishments would be incomplete without importantly including Mrs. Watts, the former Margaret Frances Vincent of Emporia, Virginia, where Dr. Watts held his first pastorate and where they were married. With her warm, friendly understanding and tireless co-operation in her husband's activities, Mrs. Watts is a gracious and uplifting influence in the spheres of Church School, young people's work and congregational concerns. Truly *alter idem* to Dr. Watts.

By no means are statistical facts a full measure of a minister's service. For who except the individuals affected can properly appraise those intangibles of comfort, inspiration, guidance and happiness which a minister bestows on those who seek his understanding and counsel? Yet, all who know Dr. Watts realize that such instances must be legion, in the light of his kindliness and dedication to both the spiritual and temporal well-being of his fellow man.

Many measurable steps in church progress have marked these past eight years. From the outset he emphasized active evangelism, and 794 new members have been welcomed by the congregation during his pastorate. In his sermons he has repeatedly stressed the responsibilities of stewardship. Christians, he affirms, are simply stewards of all they possess and are under divine obligation to return to God a sacrificial portion of all that He has entrusted to them. In response to this convincing reasoning, congregational giving has risen from \$73,600 in Dr. Watts' first year to \$133,300 in 1958. Church properties, too, reflect the progress of these eventful years, in a beautiful new educational building erected in 1954 with an expenditure of more than \$100,000; in expansion of office facilities for the church staff; redecorated, recarpeted, air-conditioned sanctuary, and two commodious hard-surfaced parking lots to accommodate increased attendance at all services.

Today twenty large and thirty-two smaller rooms are in constant use for church activities and organizations, and the sanctuary which seats 600 is regularly filled to capacity, with the further need for aisle chairs on special occasions in spring, fall and winter.

Dr. Watts is convinced that the Sunday School and work with young people represent the central foundation stone for a church's future. For from these activities grows the knowledge of how and why to worship, and the personal experience of it. Year after year new attendance records have been established in the Church School, reaching the most recent top figure of 581 on March 22, 1959.

In expanding the scope of the Sunday School Dr. and Mrs. Watts saw a growing need for a class for young couples and newlyweds in the church. Mrs. Watts taught the class on the first Sunday of its organization and it now has an enrollment of forty-five.

Dr. Watts firmly believes that a dynamic church is one of friendliness and fellowship. In hearty concurrence, Sunday School leaders arrange picnics, adult classes and the choirs have social gatherings. The Women of the Church, with 525 members and 454 participating actively, in 1958 reported almost 5,500 visits to new Presbyterians, to the sick and to others whose needs called for helpful attention.

Apart from work of the Sunday School, Dr. and Mrs. Watts join the young people Sunday evenings in their meetings and diversions for which special space and a variety of facilities have been provided, affording an inviting center for the recreational life of the church's

youth. Recently two hard-surfaced tennis courts were added to the facilities.

Under Dr. Watts' leadership the first Westminster Fellowship was organized on the campus of High Point College for college-age Presbyterian students attending the Methodist institution. Currently it has a membership of approximately forty.

When our denomination sponsored publication of a new hymnal recently, one of our church members, Jack Burris, presented enough copies to meet congregational needs, with a dedicatory book plate in each hymnal in honor of our pastor and his wife.

It is clear that growth in the church and the challenge to maintain its vitality have created an ever-increasing burden on Dr. Watts. To meet this need the Reverend Samuel N. Thomas became our able and first full-time assistant minister in 1957, coming from the ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Acme, North Carolina. There is now an efficient staff of nine to lead in the work of the church.

We see in Dr. Watts' educational background, former ministries and service in higher Presbyterian councils, how fully he is prepared to meet church needs with confidence and competence.

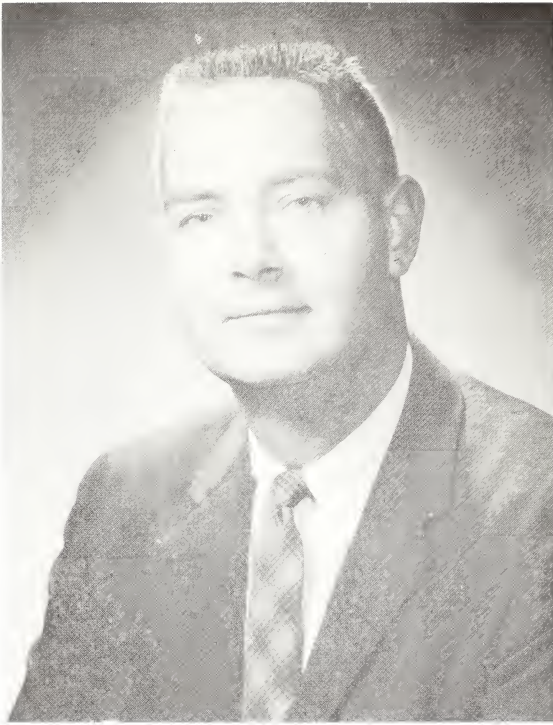
Born in Pontotoc, Mississippi, and following public schooling in his home state, he attended Southwestern College, Memphis, Tennessee, where he was a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, graduating with an A.B. degree. Further studies at Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Virginia, resulted in his receiving the degree of Bachelor of Divinity, and in 1950 his alma mater, Southwestern, awarded him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

He was ordained to the ministry by East Hanover Presbytery of Virginia of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S., thereafter beginning his first pastorate in the Emporia (Virginia) Presbyterian Church; and serving also as pastor of Lawrenceville, Union and Aberdour. Other pastorates preceding his coming to High Point included the Presbyterian Church, Leland, Mississippi; First Presbyterian Church, Albemarle, North Carolina, where he was also president of the Albemarle Rotary Club; and First Presbyterian Church, Clarksdale, Mississippi.

Repeatedly Dr. Watts has been called into leadership and participation in the affairs of our general denomination. He has served as moderator of the Presbyteries of East Hanover, Central Mississippi, Mecklenburg, North Mississippi, and Orange. On three occasions he

has been elected as commissioner to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States. At present he is a member of the Committee on Church Extension in Orange Presbytery, member of the Synod's Council, and chairman of Synod's Committee on Nominations and of the Committee on Records. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Peace College, of the Board of Trustees of the Consolidated Presbyterian College, and vice chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Montreat Association.





THE REVEREND SAMUEL N. THOMAS
Assistant Pastor of High Point First Presbyterian Church

BIOGRAPHY
of
THE REVEREND SAMUEL NORMAN THOMAS

1928-

The Reverend Samuel Norman Thomas, son of Roland Thomas and Jimmie Kornegay Thomas, was born in Pink Hill, N. C., on June 10, 1928. He attended Presbyterian Junior College at Maxton, N. C., 1945-1947; Davidson College, Davidson, N. C., 1947-1949—graduating from there with a B.A. in psychology. In 1949 he entered Union Theological Seminary at Richmond, Virginia, and graduated there in 1952 with a B.D. degree.

On July 15, 1952, he was licensed by Wilmington Presbytery to preach, and on August 3, 1952, accepted work in Wilmington Presbytery. On October 3, 1952, he was married to Frances Boland Lindler of Columbia, S. C. To this union there have been born three children—two sons and one daughter: Samuel Norman, Jr., 1954; Frances Gene, 1956; and James Roland, 1958.

His first pastorate was at the Acme Presbyterian Church 1952-1957; White Plains Presbyterian Church 1952-1953; and Ashwood Presbyterian Church 1953-1957. In August 1957 he accepted work as Assistant Pastor and Minister of Education in the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, N. C., and moved his family to High Point from Acme.

He has been a member of a Lions Club and an officer in this organization. At present he is a member of Kiwanis Club; Presbyterian Junior College Alumni Association President, 1956; Trustee, Presbyterian Junior College, 1957; Moderator of Wilmington Presbytery; Chairman of Commission on Minister and His Work, Wilmington Presbytery.



HENRY WHIPPLE, B.Mus., M.S.M.

Minister of Music

BIOGRAPHY
of
HENRY WHIPPLE, B.Mus., M.S.M.
Minister of Music

Henry Whipple son of Burdette C. and Ada Scofield Whipple, was born in Jackson County, Michigan, near where his great-grand parents came to live early in the 19th century, when they left the New England States. His early education was received from the schools near his home. When his high school work was completed he entered the University of Michigan. From there he graduated in 1928 with an A.B. degree. In 1930, he received a B.Mus. degree from this same University. Then he attended the School of Sacred Music of the Union Theological Seminary, New York, from where he received his M.S.M., in 1935.

In 1954 he took summer courses at a doctorate level at the Union Theological Seminary.

Included in his study of organ are such teachers as Dr. Palmer Christian, organist of U. of M. and recitalist of national reputation; Dr. Clarence Dickinson, founder and first director of School of Sacred Music, U.T.S., famed composer of church music, and organist of Brick Presbyterian Church, New York City; Dr. Robert Baker, recitalist and organist of First Presbyterian Church, New York City; Mr. Arthur Howes of Peabody Conservatory, Baltimore.

The positions Mr. Whipple has held as Minister of Music are: Market Square Presbyterian, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania (1935-1937); First Methodist, Alliance, Ohio, and Choral Director of Alliance Symphony Society (1937-1942); First Baptist and Temple Beth-Or, Montgomery, Alabama (1945-1947); coming to First Presbyterian Church, High Point, North Carolina, in 1947.

In 1942 Henry Whipple and Miss Mildred Diser of Alliance, Ohio, were married, and from 1942 to 1945 he was in the armed forces overseas, serving as a Chaplain's Assistant with the 13th Armored Regiment of the First Armored Division. This 13th Armored Division made its initial landing at Oran, Algeria, and saw action at Anzio, Rome, and northern Italy.

Mr. Whipple is a member of the American Guild of Organists, a charter member of the Piedmont Chapter and a former Dean of the chapter. He is also a composer of some note, having had anthems and organ arrangements published by H. W. Gray of New York, and E. C. Schirmer of Boston.



PRESIDENTS: THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH
1935 - 1959

First row left to right: Mrs. N. S. Stirewalt, Mrs. G. W. Pleasants, Mrs. P. Hunter Dalton, III, Mrs. W. H. Kimrey, Mrs. Frank W. Wall, Mrs. James H. Hogg; *Second row left to right:* Mrs. H. P. Morrison, Mrs. C. R. Barrier, Mrs. Alex M. Rankin, Mrs. R. D. Tillson, Mrs. Henry V. Koonts, Mrs. Charles W. Perry, and Mrs. W. W. Lentz.

ACTIVITIES OF WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

1935-1959

by

ERNESTINE HAYES DALLAS

Dear Mrs. Coble,

Knowing your never waning interest in the First Church since leaving High Point, I must bring you up to date on the events taking place in the Women's Auxiliary. So come with me back to the year 1935.

First, for the record, the officers of the Woman's Auxiliary for the year 1935 were as follows: President, Mrs. R. S. Lafferty; Vice-President, Mrs. C. C. Garrett; Secretary, Mrs. P. H. Dalton, III; Treasurer, Mrs. A. E. Taplin; and Historian, Mrs. G. A. Shipman.

The most important thing at the moment is that we have a new pastor! We will miss the Rennies, bless their hearts, and shall be grateful to him for serving as our leader when we were greatly in need of one, but realize it was a difficult task at his age.

Dr. and Mrs. O. C. Williamson and two little boys have just moved into the Manse. The Women stocked the pantry shelves with "goodies" for their arrival, and later in the week a reception was given in their honor.

Dr. Williamson taught our Bible Study, the book of Genesis, over a period of five weeks. He presented it beautifully!

The eight circles, we now have, total three hundred and sixteen members. This includes the Home Circle, headed by "Aunt Bert" Barbee (Bertha Snow Barbee). Mrs. Hunter Dalton is the President along with a fine slate of officers. Mrs. Charles Perry is Vice-President; Mrs. Vernon Idol, Secretary and Lucie (Mrs. Frank Wall) is the Treasurer. Mrs. Fred Hicks is the very able Historian.

The Women have made 5,593 visits during the year. We are really proud of this record and feel our minister will be pleased too.

Miss Lucy Steele came to us in January and spoke on "First Things First." I'm actually envious of the students at Peace College who are in her Bible classes. She is a real inspiration to all who are privileged to hear her.

The Auxiliary Birthday Party was in the form of a garden party at the home of Mrs. Henry Perry. It was a lovely affair, but the offering was a little disappointing.

Now it is 1937. It has been a year since I have written you. We have grown to ten circles. An Auxiliary Officers Training Class was initiated this year, which had almost a hundred per cent attendance. We had three changes in officers. The office of Vice-President was occupied by Mrs. David Andrews and Mrs. E. A. Wright. Mrs. W. W. Lentz served as Secretary, and Mrs. V. W. Idol, Sr., is doing a grand job as Historian. Five of the members attended the Woman's Conference at Montreat—a treat for anyone.

A highlight of the year was being hostess to Presbyterial.

At Christmas time, Mrs. Charles W. Perry directed a lovely pageant, and the Joy Gift amounted to \$60.34.

In the year of 1938, Mrs. N. S. Stirewalt became our President. Mrs. E. A. Wright, Vice-President; Mrs. C. R. Barrier, Recording Secretary; Mrs. W. W. Lentz, Corresponding Secretary; and Mrs. V. W. Idol, Sr., continued as Historian. Two more circles were added, making nine day circles and three evening circles.

The book of Philippians was taught at Prayer Meeting, for five weeks, by Dr. Williamson. Approximately one hundred women read our book on missions, "City Shadows" which was later reviewed in the form of a pageant, directed by Dorothy Snow Groome (Mrs. J. I.). The Joy Gift Offering was a big increase over last year—amounting to one hundred dollars. This was a most eventful year because it became a year of "firsts."

A General Chairman of Circles was added. A class for Circle Bible Leaders was begun, taught by Mrs. C. A. McMurray. This class meets once a month, prior to the circle meeting, and is a great help to those eager to teach but who need help in their preparation.

A Church Hostess was added to the staff, whose salary is paid by the Women. Forgive me if I boast a little, but we have three Presbyterial Officers from our group. Mrs. O. C. Williamson, Secretary of Spiritual Life; Mrs. Hunter Dalton, Secretary of S. & P. Home Missions, and Mrs. Lamar McCallum, Chairman of District two.

In the second year (1939) of Mrs. Stirewalt's presidency, Mary Drew Dalton Ingram served as Vice-President; Mrs. G. W. Pleasants, Corresponding Secretary; and Mrs. E. E. White was the Treasurer. The membership grew to three hundred and sixty-seven. Two hundred and fifty dollars was made from the sale of a church directory and applied on the church debt.

Miss Janie McCutcheon taught the Bible Study which was well attended.

The May Birthday Offering amounted to \$51.95 and the Joy Gift Offering was \$77.35. For several years we have sent a group of young people to the conferences at Davidson College and Peace College. They always return full of enthusiasm and gratitude for this opportunity.

Nineteen hundred forty has been a very successful year with that dear Mrs. G. W. Pleasants at the wheel. I wonder how may realize just how fortunate the First Church is to have so many capable leaders.

Mary Drew Ingram served as Vice-President another year; Mrs. E. E. White, Treasurer; and Mrs. V. W. Idol, Sr., Historian. Mrs. R. D. Tillson became Recording Secretary and Mrs. O. C. Williamson served as Corresponding Secretary.

In September, we were the host church to Synod, and this meant work for all of us. A group of twenty-five visited Glade Valley recently and took with them fifteen bags of used clothing for the store there.

The Auxiliary has taken full responsibility of the Nursery maintained during the morning Worship Service.

Chauffeuring mothers to the pre-natal clinic has become a part of our work calendar also.

An Honorary Life Membership was given Mrs. Alma Headen Jackson, who I'm sure you remember well. As you probably know, she is serving the Master as a missionary in Africa.

Our Women helped organize the Brentwood Presbyterian Auxiliary on March 10.

During Mrs. Pleasants' second year in office (1941), Mrs. A. E. Taplin served with her as Vice-President. Mrs. J. P. Bolt was the new Treasurer. We had ten day circles and four evening, plus the Home circle.

The Joy Gift Offering brought real joy to our hearts in December. It was the largest yet—two hundred dollars!

I must tell you, Mrs. Coble, about one of the most gratifying and unusual experiences it has been our pleasure to be a part of. Quite a number of Service Men were in town for the week-end, because of Army maneuvers close by. Under the direction of Aunt Ruby (Mrs. R. E. Bencini) a delicious breakfast was prepared and served these hungry, homesick boys—in the church dining room. Cots with bedding were also available for those who wished to spend the night in

the recreation rooms. After the morning worship service, many were invited to the homes of our members for dinner. The boys' sincere appreciation really touched us.

The growth of the Auxiliary this year has not been in numbers or gifts, but a decided growth in leadership and willingness to work. We are indeed grateful to our President for her faithfulness and to Mrs. Charles Perry, who has seen that flowers were placed in the Sanctuary each Sunday for two years. Flowers most definitely add beauty to the service.

In the year 1942, Lucie Hayes Wall (Mrs. Frank) became the President. Mrs. Charles Barrier, Vice-President; Mrs. W. A. Hays, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. A. S. Caldwell, Jr., Historian. Because of the war, our membership has decreased instead of grown. Many have moved to get into defense work. Our women have contributed greatly to the cause of Peace, both in service and prayer. There are around eighty members in uniform. A voluntary offering was taken to help with the construction of an addition to the church for the soldiers at Jacksonville, N. C.

Incidentally, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Denny celebrated their Golden Anniversary on February 22. Exceptionally fine programs have been planned by Mrs. C. R. Barrier and inspiring devotionals given by Mrs. H. P. Hardin. The high quality of leadership shown by the officers and various chairmen during a year of many changes, has not gone unnoticed. Mrs. C. E. Kerchner, President of Orange Presbyterial, conducted the installation of new officers. For our week of Spiritual Enrichment, we were fortunate in having Mrs. R. G. Kizer of Concord, Dorothy Smith's (Mrs. Frank Smith) mother, lead us in a study of Luke. Our December meeting was combined with the regular Sunday Vespers in the form of a beautiful candlelight service, impressively led by Mrs. Frank Smith.

This year (1943) has been a most interesting one. There were three changes in officers. Mrs. S. L. Rodenbough, Jr., Recording Secretary; Mrs. F. F. Dickson, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. R. K. Young, Treasurer.

In April, a series of Bible studies was presented by Dr. Frank Grosley Morgan, son of the well known preacher and author, Dr. J. Campbell Morgan of London. His messages were filled with power and spiritual uplift—messages I shall never forget. These studies were sponsored by all the churches in town; the morning sessions at Wesley Memorial Methodist Church and the evening sessions at our church.

Another step forward, was the securing of a Bible teacher for our local high school. This has been a long time dream of many of our men and women, and one which has required hours of work and prayer. Mrs. H. P. Hardin, Secretary of Spiritual Life and Mrs. C. A. McMurray, teacher of the Bible Leaders class for several years, presented this matter to the Ministerial Association. With the cooperation of this body and the school board, the program was begun.

We had the pleasure of entertaining Synodical in October. Due to the untiring efforts of Mrs. Charles Barrier, acting president for Lucie Wall who was visiting her husband at an army camp, plans were made and executed smoothly. Most of the guests were entertained in the homes of our members, and a lovely tea given at the home of Mrs. Carter Dalton.

Mrs. R. D. Tillson became our leader in 1944. Mrs. H. P. Hardin, Vice-President; Mrs. H. L. Rodenbough, Recording Secretary; Mrs. O. C. Williamson, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. R. K. Young, Treasurer; Mrs. Charles W. Perry succeeded Mrs. Idol as Historian.

Always feeling the need for additional Bible study, the Auxiliary joined with the women of several other churches and again brought Dr. Frank Crossley Morgan to High Point for a series of studies on Habakkuk.

The Intensive Bible study was taught by our Pastor for five consecutive Wednesday nights. The subject was Second Corinthians, and the average attendance was forty-seven.

Mrs. H. P. Morrison, Mrs. C. R. Wilcox, Mrs. C. R. Barrier, and Mrs. T. S. McKensie attended the Auxiliary Training School at Montreat. I can think of nothing that makes a Summer more complete than a visit to Montreat, and it is an experience few are privileged to enjoy. Sitting at the feet of such learned teachers and dedicated Christians, were hours never to be forgotten.

Our hearts were lightened when our beloved pastor, Dr. Williamson, returned to the pulpit in September after a three month's illness, but not for long. In October, he accepted a call to the Cook's Memorial Church near Charlotte and left for his new pastorate on November 17. He felt the work in our church was too heavy for his weakened body. Before leaving, the Women gave him a canned fruit shower, because of the diet he had to follow, and a beautiful silver pitcher.

Mrs. C. C. Garrett was asked to fill the office of Corresponding Secretary which Mrs. Williamson left vacant.

Mrs. Bessie Thompson Smith was recognized at one of the general meetings for her splendid attendance record. She had not been absent in fifteen years.

An Honorary Life Membership was given to Mama (Helen Snow Hayes), which is only the second one awarded in the history of our Auxiliary. A short Biography was read and in presenting the pin, Mrs. G. W. Pleasants said: "This pin which I present to you, is an expression of the appreciation of the Woman's Auxiliary of the First Presbyterian Church of High Point, for your service, your self-sacrifice, your devotion and your loyalty through all these years."

In seeking out a new pastor, the President and Vice-President served faithfully as members of a Pulpit Committee of seven. This committee recommended to the congregation, on March 18, that a call be given Rev. Paul Tudor Jones of Greenville, Mississippi.

The year's work of 1945 was begun with the following organization: President, Mrs. R. D. Tillson; Vice-President, Mrs. H. P. Morrison; Recording Secretary, Mrs. R. E. Bencini; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. C. C. Garrett; Treasurer, Mrs. E. A. Kline; Historian, Mrs. Charles W. Perry.

On May 19, 1945, The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones and family arrived in High Point, and on June 14 were given a lovely reception to which the members of the Ministerial Association and ministers of Orange Presbytery, with their wives, were invited.

One of the most forceful preachers we have had visit us, led us in the study of the Book of Acts in November. This study, led by Dr. Frederick W. Lewis of Greensboro, lasted a full week and was a delightful and inspiring experience for both the men and women.

In November, three of our older members were honored and recognized for their loyalty to the church. These were Mrs. Bessie Smith, Mrs. G. W. Denny and Miss Mary Thompson, and each received a little book entitled, "The Words of Jesus".

In 1946, Mrs. Charles W. Perry became the new President. Mrs. H. P. Morrison took over as Vice-President; Mrs. R. E. Bencini, Recording Secretary; Mrs. G. W. Pleasants, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. E. A. Kline, Treasurer; Mrs. W. A. Hayes, Historian. The Intensive Bible Study, the book of Isaiah, was taught by Mrs. C. A. McMurray in a morning session.

I think the increase in gifts from our Women should not go unnoticed. Twenty-five dollars was sent to Mission Court in Richmond;

Twenty dollars to Flora Macdonald College; Two hundred dollars to Peace College for the Building Fund; Forty dollars for scholarship to Glade Valley School; Seventy-five dollars and seventy cents was the offering for Home Missions; One hundred seventy dollars was the Auxiliary Birthday Offering. We had an emergency request for food for Europe—two hundred and ten cans were collected and shipped. Later in the year, eight boxes of clothing were sent. We are continuing to contribute toward the support of Bible teachers in the schools.

Mrs. H. P. Morrison was the President of the Auxiliary in 1947. Mrs. A. M. Rankin, Jr., became Vice-President; Mrs. Hunter Dalton, Second Vice-President; Mrs. C. T. Ingram, Jr., Recording Secretary; Mrs. G. W. Pleasants, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. C. E. Lehmann, Treasurer. The Historian did not change. The Cherry Street Negro Presbyterian Church reported that \$609.00 was made from the sale of gifts given them by our women.

Mrs. Frank C. Stanton of Charlotte led the Intensive Bible Study. Another outstanding personality preached for us in January. This was Mr. Allen Craig, a missionary in Africa for twenty-six years.

We entertained Orange Presbytery in January, serving lunch and supper to the delegates, and speakers in the church dining room. Mary Drew Dalton Ingram, great-granddaughter of our first Pastor, Pleasant Hunter Dalton, read a brief history of the early church as part of the program.

In 1948, we had only one change in officers. Mrs. C. C. Garrett replaced Mrs. G. W. Pleasants as Corresponding Secretary. Mrs. Charles Barrier and Mrs. R. E. Bencini organized an Auxiliary at Crestwood Chapel with thirteen members present.

In 1948, Orange Presbyterial met in High Point again. This was quite an undertaking for all, but under Mrs. Morrison's leadership, the various committees worked most efficiently and every detail seemed to come out as planned.

The House Committee, of which Mrs. Thornton Glover was chairman, redecorated the Ladies Parlor with new drapes and reconditioned furniture. Quite a few improvements were made in the church also.

Our Pastor was honored again. Southwestern College in Memphis, Tennessee, awarded him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity at the college commencement in June. At the mid-week prayer serv-

ices, Dr. Jones taught our Intensive Bible Study—lasting six weeks. To show our appreciation, he was given a Westminster Bible. I am always sorry when the Bible Study comes to an end. For me, it is the highlight of the whole year.

The Home Mission offering amounted to \$353.75. The Joy Gift was \$367.34 and the offering for Foreign Missions amounted to \$1,000.00. To Flora Macdonald College we sent \$45.00 and furnished two rooms at a cost of \$360.00.

The Westminster Fellowship Conference, with one hundred and thirty-six delegates from the colleges and universities, met in our church. The Cherry Street (Colored) Presbyterian congregation served as hosts with us.

An Honorary Life Membership was presented Mrs. G. W. Denny in December, 1948. She is eighty-six years old now, and still quite active. I want to quote a part of the tribute read at the presentation.

"In presenting this Life Membership to you, we the members of the Auxiliary are really the ones who have received. Accept it, cherish it and we shall always cherish you."

Since our church is free of debt, our interests have turned to others. We contributed \$1,200.00 for Bible teaching in the city schools.

I know it will please you to know that we have one hundred and twenty women who belong to prayer groups; one hundred and sixty-five are in a Bible study class, and nine women have read the entire Bible this year.

We assist our very efficient Dietitian, Mrs. Bertha Buie, at all times. We average twelve dinners a month and have served six thousand meals this year. We have sent to Duke University \$1,500.00 for the education of Miss Gene Lindler, who goes to Korea in the Fall as a medical technician. She was also given \$90.00 for clothes plus six uniforms and incidentals.

We started the year 1949 with a total membership of four hundred and thirty-five. Mrs. A. M. Rankin, Jr., was in the chair as President; Mrs. Henry Koonts, Vice-President; Mrs. H. R. Pancoast, Second Vice-President; Mrs. James Hogg, Recording Secretary; Mrs. C. C. Garrett, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Carl Connor, Treasurer.

During this year we were fortunate in having Dr. Julian Price Love, Professor of Biblical Theology at Louisville Presbyterian Sem-

inary in Kentucky, teach us the Gospel of John. He was brought to High Point by the Council of Church Women, lecturing for five mornings and preaching each evening. His personality is magnetic, and every hour spent in his audience is one that shall long be cherished.

We are really excited over the prospects of a Home for the Aged in our town. This will be located on the Greensboro Road and operated by the Synod of North Carolina. Fifty thousand dollars must be raised to enable the Home to qualify for a \$43,000 trust set up by the late Mrs. Caroline E. Ford of Lexington, N. C. The purchase of a dormitory and twenty-seven acres of land from High Point College, enables the Home to meet conditions of another bequest from the late Mrs. John T. Burrus, amounting to \$60,000. Our Church has two trustees on the board: Mrs. Henry Koonts and Mr. F. Logan Porter, Sr.

The year's work of 1950, began with the following organization: Mrs. A. M. Rankin, Jr., President; Mrs. Henry Koonts, Vice President; Mrs. James Hogg, Secretary; Mrs. Nan Garland, Treasurer; Mrs. W. A. Hayes, Historian.

Ninety-three daily Bible readers were reported, which seems to increase each year. Our minister, Dr. Jones, taught our Intensive Bible Study, the Letter to the Hebrews. In his usual interesting manner and beautiful delivery, he made it a fascinating study.

The budget of \$5,000.00 was exceeded. A total of \$6,058.87 was paid in. Two very pretty silver Urns were bought by the Women and placed in the Sanctuary for flowers.

The Displaced Persons Committee has placed six homeless families in this area, and three of the church school classes donated clothing and paid for transportation from New York City. I am sure you will agree that our people should be proud of the many ways in which they have served during the war years, and this period of readjustment since 1945.

Nineteen hundred fifty-one, and we have passed another milestone. I do hope I still have your attention and haven't bored you with details.

Mrs. Henry Koonts served as President in 1951. Mrs. James Hogg, Vice-President; Mrs. W. F. Michael, Jr., Secretary; Mrs. Nan Garland, Treasurer; Mrs. W. A. Hayes, Historian.

It was quite a shock to all in the Spring when our beloved pastor asked to be released to accept a call to the Grace Covenant Presby-

terian Church in Richmond, Virginia. We shall miss him and his sweet family very much.

At a farewell party in their honor, they were given a handsome silver service by the Women of the Church. (The name Women's Auxiliary was changed to Women of the Church in 1948.) The annual Birthday Party, May, 1951, was held in Mrs. Charles Perry's beautiful garden. About one hundred attended and the offering amounted to \$267.71.

In June, our Pulpit Committee recommended that a call be issued to Dr. Roy Edward Watts who was at that time the minister of the First Church in Clarksdale, Miss. He accepted the call, and arrived in July with his attractive wife, Margaret. On August 3, the Women entertained for them with an "Open House" in the church dining room.

In 1952, Mrs. C. R. Barrier became the leader of Women of the Church. Mrs. James Hogg, First Vice-President; Mrs. C. M. Garrison, Second Vice-President; Mrs. W. F. Michael, Jr., continued as Secretary; and Mrs. Nan Garland as Treasurer.

During this year the number of Bible readers grew to one hundred and thirteen, with fifty-six belonging to prayer groups—an evidence that we are growing spiritually.

In April Mrs. Hunter Dalton, III, became President of Orange Presbyterial and three other women from our church were on the board. Mrs. E. E. White, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. James Hogg, Secretary of Christian Education; and Mrs. Walkup McCain, Secretary of Church Extension.

In November Miss Lucy Steele, one of the outstanding Bible teachers in the General Assembly, taught our Intensive Bible study—"The Holy Spirit and Today."

Soon after news of the death of Mrs. Joseph Rennie was received, a large silver tray was presented to the Presbyterian Home in memory of her. She will long live in the memory of all of us.

In Mrs. Barrier's second year in office as President, 1953, Mrs. H. O. Williams was the Vice-President. Mrs. C. M. Garrison, Second Vice-President; Mrs. Henry Whipple, Secretary; Mrs. Nan Garland, Treasurer; and Mrs. W. A. Hayes continued as Historian. Total membership was then five hundred and twenty-five.

The United Church Women invited Dr. Bernard Boyd, a brilliant Bible teacher and head of the department of religion at the

University of North Carolina, to High Point for a series of Bible studies.

An Honorary Life Membership was given to Mrs. Hunter Dalton (Frances Ennis) in November. She is the only Presbyterian President we can boast of from our church, and she has done an excellent job.

This has been a year of "Cornerstone Layings" which will give you an idea of our growth. First, we attended a service at the sight of the new Educational Building. Next, a service at the Presbyterian Home for an addition to the present unit, and on Thanksgiving Day, we attended the Cornerstone Laying of the new Brentwood Presbyterian Church building. Our Women contributed \$1,000 for furnishings at Brentwood while the church donated \$5,000 to help with the building.

One of our women has recently rendered a unique service which should be mentioned. Mrs. R. M. Gladstone responded to a call from Miss Ann Corey, Dean of Girls at the Glade Valley mountain school. Miss Corey asked for someone to classify the books in the school library, and bring the library up to standard requirements. Mrs. Gladstone spent two weeks during the Summer mending and putting the books in their proper order. She also made out a suggested book order which required additional time, but of untold value to the school.

I would say the outstanding event of 1954 was the completion of the Educational Building. You must see it on your next visit to High Point. We think it corresponds well with the architecture of the original building, and is ideal for our needs.

In July, the general meeting of the Women of the Church was held at the Presbyterian Home. The guests there seemed pleased to have us and delighted to show off their lovely new home.

In August, a Mother-Daughter "brunch" was held in the church dining room—the general meeting and circle meeting being combined. At this time many of the women proudly introduced their daughters and granddaughters. There were four generations present from our family.

In the Spring of 1954, our former Pastor, Dr. Paul Tudor Jones, graciously consented to teach us the Intensive Bible Study. The attendance was unusually large, and the study one we shall remember for a long time.

The officers this year have worked hard and should be highly commended. Mrs. James Hogg served as President; Mrs. H. O. Wil-

liams, First-President; Mrs. H. P. Morrison, Second Vice-President; Mrs. H. D. Sears, Jr., Secretary; Mrs. Carl Connor, Treasurer; Mrs. W. A. Hayes, Historian. These same officers served in 1955 with only two changes. Mrs. Clyde Jones replaced Mrs. Williams as First Vice-President, and Mrs. Tyree Nabors replaced Mrs. Connor as Treasurer. It has been a busy twelve months and an interesting one.

Dr. and Mrs. Hervey Ross, our missionaries from Mexico, visited us in February. Both are so attractive, and an inspiration to all. The executive board gave Pauline (Mrs. Ross), a former member of our church staff, gifts to be used on her trip to Brazil with Dr. Ross.

In May, an Honorary Life Membership was given to our minister's wife, Mrs. Margaret Vincent Watts (Mrs. Roy E.). Mrs. H. P. Morrison made the presentation saying, "We wish to honor a member of our organization whose ready smile and twinkling eyes make us most thankful to God that she is one of us."

Mrs. C. A. McMurray reviewed "Love In The New Testament," our Bible study for 1955 and did a beautiful job as always with her brilliant teaching and interpretation. In November we were hostesses to Orange Presbyterial. Lois Hogg, in her systematic manner, worked out every detail with her various committees which functioned without a flaw—as far as I could observe.

We even had a through church cleaning prior to this meeting, at which time the Sanctuary was repainted.

Two Memorial Memberships were given in honor of Mrs. H. P. Hardin and Mrs. Patte Jordan Alexander by our retiring president, Mrs. James Hogg. From her comments I quote, "Both of these women were loyal and devoted, inspiring deep friendship. God took them at a time we think of as the prime of their lives."

In 1956, Mrs. W. H. Kimrey took the chair as President. The other officers remained the same with the addition of Mrs. Hal Davis as Assistant Secretary. Our membership has increased to five hundred and twenty-nine with twenty-two circles.

We are so pleased with one hundred and seventy-eight consistent Bible readers, and eighty-nine read the New Testament, an assignment for the year.

Mrs. C. A. White has been most faithful as Chairman of the Shut-Ins.

Mrs. J. H. McCall, circle chairman last year, completed the plate

sale sponsored by her circle, which amounted to one hundred forty-two dollars and fifty-two cents. Each plate had a picture of the church in the center. This money was sent to Glade Valley mountain school. To all causes, the women gave eighty-five hundred dollars in 1956.

Some years are more eventful than others. Some offer more opportunities for service. The year 1957 was one that offered such opportunities and we are grateful that we had women who were alert to these channels of service.

The year 1957 was Mrs. Kimrey's second year as president, and with her vision and versatility she and her board made an outstanding record in the pages of our history.

Mrs. Elliott Hester was the first Vice-President; Mrs. James Hogg, Second Vice-President; Mrs. William Okey, Secretary; Mrs. Noble Praigg, Treasurer.

It was indeed a privilege to have Mr. S. F. Kosey, Professor of Bible at Presbyterian Junior College in Maxton, lead our study of the minor prophets. His personality and delivery was delightful.

Two Honorary Life Memberships were given at the November general meeting. The recipients were Mrs. Ava Hall Taylor and Mrs. Ruby Snow Bencini. You will remember both of these women as true and faithful members of the church.

The Birthday Offering was partially raised from donations collected for signatures embroidered on a lovely grey tablecloth which was later presented to our minister's wife. Mrs. R. K. Young and Mrs. Tom Marlowe spent many hours on plans for this party which was beautiful in every detail.

In November, Mrs. C. A. McMurray and I were installed as members of the board of Orange Presbyterial; she as Chairman of Spiritual Growth and I as Historian.

In September, 1957, we welcomed Samuel N. Thomas and his family as new members in the church family. He will be assistant pastor and minister of education. The Women of the Church stocked the pantry and refrigerator for them on the day of their arrival.

Mrs. W. W. Lentz succeeded Mrs. Kimrey as President in 1958. Mrs. Kimrey became the second Vice-President, which is customary now. The other officers remained unchanged.

High Point was the scene of the United Church Women meeting

in January, 1958, and luncheon was served in the dining room of our church.

Mrs. George Knight has rendered a service to our "Shut-Ins" which deserves the thanks of each church member. We have no record of the hours she spends visiting and cooking for these Home Circle members, but I do know that each one is visited by her every month and for their birthdays, each receives a cake with gifts. She is certainly "Miss Sunshine" to our elder members and they love her dearly!

Dr. Bernard Boyd, a speaker with more invitations than he can possibly accept, came to us in April. His presentation of Luke was fascinating, and one hundred and eighty came to hear him.

Every family in the church now receives the Presbyterian Survey; a church expense but money well spent.

1959. Mrs. Lentz has done a marvelous job during her two years as President. Mrs. C. M. Garrison has supported her as Vice-President for two years. Mrs. W. H. Kimrey served as Second Vice-President for two years. Mrs. William VanLiere, Secretary; Mrs. C. E. Lehmann, Treasurer; Mrs. W. A. Hayes, Historian.

In January, arrangements were made for an OPEN HOUSE in the new manse. (The old one was renovated for the Thomas family.) Neighbors and friends, in addition to the church members, were invited and all in all it was a lovely occasion.

Dr. Donald Miller, Professor of New Testament at the Seminary in Richmond, introduced me to the book of Revelation — in the Spring. All these years I have avoided it, feeling it was beyond my scope of learning, but I shall be forever grateful for his interpretation. This study was held on Sunday night, and had the largest attendance ever for Intensive Bible Study—thanks to Lois Hogg and her efficient planning.

The Centennial Committee has planned a full year of events. The church bulletins change every four months, each carrying a different picture of the many places of worship.

On April 12, the Annual Birthday Party of the Women of the Church was held at night so the men might attend. Mrs. Hunter Dalton, Jr., Chairman of Stewardship, conceived the idea of a three act skit, based on the History written by Mrs. Charles W. Perry, which was a huge success. The production was directed and narrated by our talented Mrs. E. B. Collins which brought loud applause and laughter from a very large audience. Helen Herndon, wife of John Herndon played the part of you, and I think you would agree with

all of us that she was a duplicate of you in your younger days, pretty too.

As is a yearly custom, a Life Membership award was made; this year going to Mrs. Katherine Weaver Shipman (Mrs. E. M.).

"There is a destiny that makes us brothers. . . . None goes his way alone. . . . What we bring into the lives of others . . . Comes back into our own."

September 3, 1959

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Mrs. W. W. Lentz	President	Mrs. William VanLiere	Secretary
Mrs. Clyde M. Garrison	1st Vice-Pres.	Mrs. C. E. Lehmann	Treasurer
Mrs. W. H. Kimrey	2nd Vice-Pres.	Mrs. W. A. Hayes	Historian

CIRCLE CHAIRMEN

Mrs. MacLean B. Leath	General Circle Chairman		
No. 1	Mrs. S. T. Hart	No. 11	Mrs. George C. Connor
No. 2	Mrs. William F. Jackman	No. 12	Mrs. P. C. McLain
No. 3	Mrs. G. Allen Mebane	No. 13 (Supper)	Mrs. E. J. Oglesby
No. 4	Mrs. Frank B. Smith	No. 14	Mrs. Carl A. Bailey
No. 5	Mrs. J. W. Thomas, Jr.	No. 15	Mrs. J. Gilbert White
No. 6	Mrs. Clyde M. Jones	No. 16	Mrs. Carrie S. Beal
No. 7	Mrs. L. A. Marsden	No. 17	Mrs. C. L. Corn
No. 8	Mrs. Walkup K. McCain	No. 18	Mrs. J. C. Kaneer
No. 9	Mrs. R. G. Ridge	No. 19	Mrs. W. A. Sloan
No. 10	Mrs. William M. Webster	Home Members, Mrs. George E. Knight, Mrs. Howard E. Lowe	



Women who have been awarded Life Membership in the Women of the Church. *Left to right:* Mrs. E. M. Shipman, Mrs. Ruby Snow Benicini, Mrs. Roy E. Watts, Mrs. Jack Taylor, and Mrs. W. A. Hayes. Mrs. P. Hunter Dalton, III (not present). (1959)

THE MEN OF THE CHURCH

by

A. B. CROOM, M.D.

As this church was founded, prospered, and grew the men's work was carried on by the Men's Bible Class. Unfortunately there is no history of its early work and the first mention of the organization, as such, is found in the minutes of the Session for November 16, 1923, when The Reverend Mr. Coble, the pastor, presented a plan for the formation and organization of the Men of the Church. The presbytery report for 1924 shows that it was then operational, but we do not know the exact date of its first meeting.

The next mention we find is in the form of an announcement in the church bulletin for March 18, 1928, when the men were called to meet for the purpose of reorganization of the club. This was two weeks prior to moving into the present church and Mr. C. C. Garrett was then serving as president. This is the first record we can locate concerning the president of the men's work.

Through the intervening years the men's work has been devoted to the enlightenment of the men as to the work of the church, its aims both locally, and world wide in the furtherance of the Kingdom of God.

Although specific projects, as such, have not been encouraged, the men have seen that church literature was distributed to members of the armed forces since World War II. Negro youth have been sponsored at the Young People's Conference for many years. It has been the chief aim to guide the men to work for their whole church rather than to concentrate the effort through a single men's organization.

Through continued fellowship on Christian planes and by leadership and prayer the men's work has prospered. Beginning with 1928 we would like to recognize the men who have headed this organization and have been influential in its growth.

PRESIDENTS—MEN OF THE CHURCH

C. C. Garrett	1928
F. J. Bartlett	1929
Z. I. Walser	1930-1931
G. W. Denny	1932
Kenneth Redman	1933
John C. Abels	1934
I. Paul Ingle	1935
Carter Dalton	1936
Paul Williamson	1937
Frank Wineskie	1938
Henry V. Koonts	1939
C. M. Allred	1940-1941
F. T. Wilhite	1942
Joe I. Miller	1943
H. P. Morrison	1944
Noble T. Praigg	1945-1946
Frank B. Smith	1947
Vernon W. Idol, Jr.	1948
A. M. Rankin, Jr.	1949
C. S. McGahey	1950
Kenneth Redman	1951
Henry V. Koonts	1952-1953
R. A. Short	1954
Carlyle B. Lewis	1955
Ernest H. McCall	1956
Bill T. Hylton	1957
James W. McAfee	1958

September 3, 1959

MEN OF THE CHURCH

Dr. A. B. Croom	President
Vann A. Nealeans	Vice-President
D. P. Mervine	Secretary
Tyree H. Nabors	Treasurer

HISTORY OF MUSIC AND CHOIR

by

ROBERT FRANK DALTON

In writing the History of the Music and Choir of the First Presbyterian Church, High Point, North Carolina, most of the names and facts that follow came from pictures, valuable memories of former choir members, and perusal of early bulletins.

Organists and leaders, a most vital part of a choir, were as follows: Mrs. P. H. Dalton, Elizabeth Fisher, Daisy Rankin, Nannie Dinwiddie, Mrs. E. L. Siler, Ruby Snow, Dorothy Snow, and Thelma Wineskie.

The first choir director, also the organist and an outstanding soloist, was Professor Dan W. Smith. Under his direction, both at the second church building and our present one, the musical program of our church made tremendous strides. Mae Kirkman served as organist during this period in Professor Smith's absence.

Mr. Henry Whipple, our present choir director, succeeded Mr. Smith. He has firmly established groups of young choirs as a part of his training program. Under his leadership, our choir has flourished and will continue to grow and improve.

The first choir on record, in our first church building, had the following regular members: Mandy Renfry Brown, Mrs. J. R. Brown, Elizabeth Fisher Rogers, Lucy Eshleman, Daisy Rankin, Mamie Jordan Burns, Mrs. Addison Burns, John Riley Brown, and E. A. Snow.

The first choir in our second building had the following regular choir members: Mrs. Hiram Armentrout, Mrs. W. A. Hayes, Mrs. Lamar McCallum, Mrs. W. G. Shipman, Mrs. R. L. Waynick, Alfred Headen, H. B. Hyde, P. H. Johnson, Frank Osborne, and Phil Warner.

Most of the above named group moved into our present choir loft and were joined by the following regular choir members: Mrs. Herman Abels, Mrs. J. H. Allred, Marian Burgess, Dorothy Franklin, Adele Hicks, Mrs. Lancy, Elizabeth Monroe, Dennyce McAdams, Mrs. W. S. Wilder, Margaret York, Herman Abels, John Abels, Carey Davis, Arthur Fidler, Norman Fidler, James Hinkle, J. D. Koonce, Willard Mendenhall, Clarence Schultheiss, and Frank Tucker.

During the first years in our present location, the congregation heard two anthems and a solo almost every Sunday morning and one

anthem and a solo almost every Sunday night. Visiting soloists were used frequently, as well as duets, trios, and quartets. Most popular of the group singers was the "Fireside Quartet", composed of Norman Fidler, Clarence Schultheiss, Dan Smith, and Frank Tucker.

There may have been others in the above three groups, but lack of adequate records make an exact list impossible.

Our music program did not become effectively organized until 1924. At a meeting of the Diaconate on October 23, 1924, the board appointed the following music committee: P. H. Johnson, Chairman; S. E. Tucker, and Frank Wineskie. They were to be wholly responsible for the church music with full power to act. This incorporated the employing of a music director, an organist, singers, ordering sheet music and doing such other things as would make the choir a success. This committee was authorized to spend up to \$175.00 per month if necessary. The board further ordered that this committee should be accountable only to the Board of Deacons.

On December 5, 1927, the question of a vested choir was brought up before the Session. The whole matter, in regard to vestments, was put in the hands of a committee consisting of F. Logan Porter, Sr., Carter Dalton, and Dr. W. A. Hayes. On July 7, 1930, the session appointed the following to secure vestments for the choir: Dr. W. A. Hayes, Dan W. Smith, Mrs. W. A. Hayes, and Mrs. Cecil H. Marriner. On September 21, 1930, vestments were worn by the choir for the first time. What a big step that was! On October 5, 1930, the vestment committee reported that, through the personal effort of Professor Dan Smith, the vestments had been secured without any cost to the church. Not reported, but worthy of note, is that Mrs. Dan Smith and Mrs. W. A. Hayes, occasionally joined by other volunteers, sewed every vestment!

April 3, 1927, at a congregational meeting, Mrs. E. A. Snow volunteered to give the church a new three manual Skinner pipe organ as a memorial to her late husband, Ernest Ansel Snow. The congregation gladly accepted the offer and drew up appropriate resolutions of thanks.

Our Junior Choir has been a struggle. On September 30, 1928, Mr. Dan Smith announced the forming of a Junior Choir. By May of 1931, regular rehearsals were scheduled and Mrs. E. W. Roney assisted in directing this group. The bulletin of June 14, 1931, had this following announcement:

“Choir Building Voice Class for adult men and women. Eight weekly lessons for a very small fee. Profits go to support of Junior Choir.”

Regular Junior Choir performances were finally begun in 1939. This program has recently grown, under the direction of Mr. Henry Whipple, to 110 members of three choirs ranging in age from six to sixteen.

September 3, 1959

CHOIR PERSONNEL

PRIMARY CHOIR: Byron Scott Bailey, Cynthia Bailey, William Bencini, Lynn Bernot, Patricia Ann Blue, David Connor, Frostie Culp, David Dalton, Robert Gross, Kathy Gurley, William Hayes, Pattie Huffman, Sid Hunt, Jane Ann Hustrulid, Johnny Hutchens, Jan Lipscomb, Johnny Lynch, Robert McInnis, Steve Mann, Steve Mays, Steve Michael, Pat Miller, Dawn Newton, William Schafer, William Smith, Sharon Elizabeth Stanley, Susie Webster, David White, Doug White, Gee White, Kathy Whitfield, Tommy Whitfield, Sharon Williard, Chris Varner, and Lynne Yelle. Primary Choir Mothers: Mrs. Robert G. Culp, Jr., Mrs. P. Hunter Dalton, III, and Mrs. Alva B. Newton.

JUNIOR CHOIR: Suzanne Alexander, Kathy Amos, Linda Armstrong, Beth Bencini, Shelley Bencini, Linda Benfield, Vicki Benfield, Robert Blue, William Blue, Louise Briggs, Maria Briggs, Connie Calvert, Dianne Correll, Jane Cottingham, Carol Cramer, Jeffrey Cross, Cheryl Culler, Kay Cummings, Frank Dalton, Jr., P. Hunter Dalton, IV, Craig Darby, Gay Davis, Connie Deyo, Linda Freeman, Jane Goodman, Ann Lee Gray, Joyce Gray, Sharon Groce, Cathy Gross, Jeanne Hager, Beth Hart, Nancy Hayes, Sharon Hege, Bobbie Helm, Lynda Huffman, Beth Hunt, Patty Sue Hunt, Steve Ingold, Mary Key, Mary Alice Lipscomb, Lura McCain, Peggy Miller, Don David Mishler, Eddie Rankin, Libby Sears, Susan Shivers, Beverley Stoddard, Beverly Stutts, Ellen Weisbecker, Lee Weisbecker, Patricia Wheeler, Ed White, Barbara Whiteside, Ruffin Whitfield, Kathy Williard, Patricia Ann Williard, Shelley Womack, and Lucy Wade Wyche. Junior Choir Mother: Mrs. V. M. Huffman.

YOUTH CHOIR: Ricky Collins, Betsy Creech, Mary Ann Creech, Mary Elizabeth Davis, Diane Deyo, Nancy Everington, Anne Garland, Jane Huneycutt, Ann Idol, Nancy Lewis, Andy Marsden, Libby McInnis, Donella Newton, Jane Rankin, Sheryl Sears, Evie Smith, Anne Southerland, and Sandra York.

SENIOR CHOIR: Mrs. Harry Alexander, Janet Alexander, Nancy Beal, Mrs. Betty Briggs, Jean Conrad, Mrs. Ted L. Cramer, Ted L. Cramer, Dr. A. B. Croom, Mrs. Wilbur Currie, R. Frank Dalton, Mrs. Gordon E. Forss, R. M. Gladstone, Roy C. Hege, Mrs. John W. Herndon, Martha Hudson, Mrs. Wilson E. Hudspeth, Dianne Johnson, Mrs. Claude P. Kirkman, Jr., Mrs. E. Thad McInnis, Bonnie Marley, C. Joseph Mishler, J. H. Mourane, Ruth Pancoast, Martha Ridge, Mrs. Jerry W. Robbins, Mrs. Bennie A. Rook, Jr., H. Dupuy Sears, Sally Smith, Mary Stuart, Sarah Stuart, Pat A. Thomas, Barbara Tillson, Mrs. Henry Whipple, Mary Womack, Mrs. Henry V. Koots, and M. D. McKinnon.

THE CHURCH SCHOOL

by

JACK W. SOUTHERLAND

From a bulletin entitled "A Service of Consecration for The First Presbyterian Sunday School", dated Sunday, April 1, 1928, the day our present building was dedicated, we take this paragraph: "The purpose of this Sunday School shall be to lead each member to personal loyalty to Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, to promote growth in Christian character and service through physical, social, mental and spiritual training, and to become a social force for the extension of the Kingdom of God."

This statement of purpose was apparently true when Mrs. Margaret Denny, wife of Eli Denny, gathered the little children of the community together for the first Presbyterian Sunday School, probably in 1858, before our church was organized and still holds true today. The first record of the Sunday School was in the session minutes of June 13, 1861, in which they reported to Presbytery that there were 35 children enrolled in Sunday School. Another interesting fact that was recorded in the same report was that there were 28 white communicants and two colored.

In the report to Presbytery of March 25, 1866 (during the years of the Civil War), it was recorded that the "Church was full of sick and wounded soldiers".

Presbytery sent out a questionnaire in 1869, in which the following questions were asked and the session's answers were given.

Question: "Have you a Sabbath School in your Church for both White and Colored children? Are they conducted with punctuality and efficiency and of how many teachers and pupils does each consist?"

Answer: "We have a Sabbath School for White children with thirty-eight pupils and seven efficient teachers."

Question: "Have you a Bible Class in your Church? If so, by whom is it conducted and of how many pupils does it consist?"

Answer: "A Bible Class is conducted by Mr. J. H. Brooks and consists of 18 members."

In the early years of our Church, the pastor must have served as head of the Sunday School. In the formative years of our Church our pastors were certainly not overpaid for their many duties, as in nearly every report to Presbytery it was stated that the Church had

pledged \$75 to \$100 for his yearly salary, that they had not been able to pay it in full, but hoped to do so before long.

In 1891, with the Church membership at 67, it was recorded that the Sunday School was "flourishing" more than at any former period of its history, with 106 pupils and teachers and an average attendance of 60. At this time the Sunday School was put under the control of the session. The International Lesson was being taught in connection with the use of the Bible and the Shorter Catechism.

Mr. E. A. Snow built a chapel in the south part of town in August of 1892. It was to be known as the Second Presbyterian Church and was to be used for a Mission Sunday School and a place of religious worship. This Chapel Sunday School was organized September 4, 1892, with eight teachers and 80 pupils, with much interest manifested. Mr. E. A. Snow was elected superintendent and Mr. W. T. Rankin, treasurer. The Chapel Sunday School continued to grow and on January 10, 1897, the session of the First Church voted to take it under its care and supervision. On April 30, 1906, the Chapel Sunday School petitioned the session of the First Church to be dissolved and most of its members joined this church.

The first form of training of Sunday School teachers was in July, 1909. Mrs. Charles D. McIver, of Greensboro, N. C., who was representing the Sunday School Association of Orange Presbytery, came to High Point and addressed the Sunday School teachers and the members of the session. She told of her work among the Sunday Schools and gave suggestions for work in the local Sunday School.

A congregational meeting was held on the second Sunday in January, 1914, for the purpose of hearing a report of the Canvassing Committee for funds to purchase a new organ and to build additional Sunday School rooms. The plans were approved by the congregation, and the trustees were authorized to borrow the necessary money. The following Building Committee was elected: W. F. Norman, Chairman; Frank Wineskie, and W. A. Hayes to serve as secretary and treasurer. An interesting notation in the session minutes on July 19, 1914, was "Pastor given vacation while building is being done. It was decided not to have mid-week services during his absence, as the building is not fit for use at present."

Again in 1921, the Sunday School was in need of more space. On January 22, 1921, a joint meeting of the Elders and Deacons was held at the Commercial Club for the purpose of considering the erection of a hut or more Sunday School rooms to accommodate

the growing Sunday School, especially the Young Ladies Class and the Bible Class, also social gatherings. Mr. Frank Wineskie was appointed chairman of a committee to formulate plans. On March 20, 1921, the congregation was presented the plans by this committee. These plans were approved and the committee was authorized to spend \$7,500 for a hut.

In 1926, the Sunday School, as well as the congregation, had out-grown its facilities, and at a congregational meeting on March 28, 1926, plans were presented for the building of our present building at the corner of North Main Street and Shirley Avenue. A full report on the building of the Church and Sunday School is printed in another part of this book. A service of Consecration for the Sunday School was held on Sunday, April 1, 1928.

Taken from a church bulletin of September 30, 1928, is the following: "Next Sunday will be observed as Rally Day in the Sunday School. Everybody is asked to come to Sunday School next Sunday. Come with your children. Come if you have no children. We want 500 in Sunday School next Sunday. We ought to have this. We want you to be one of them. We want you to bring others." Thirty years ago the problem seemed to be the same as it is today—trying to get our members interested in their Sunday School.

The first Religious Education Committee was appointed on May 24, 1936, to supervise the operation of the Sunday School department. Mr. M. A. Temple, who was also Superintendent of the Sunday School, served as chairman of this committee. This was the policy until 1953, when the Superintendent and Chairman of the Religious Education Committee requested the session to make it into two separate offices. This was done and the following men have served: Noble T. Praigg, 1954; R. D. Tillson, 1955; Howard Pancoast, 1956; Hal Davis, 1957; Willard Kimrey, 1958; and James Hogg, 1959.

In October, 1936, the session gave their consent to the two Men's classes of our Church to establish a Mission Sunday School in the Brentwood section, at the corner of East Green Street and Carter Street. The Mission Sunday School was opened on November 8, 1936, with Harry Brown as Superintendent and E. R. Clodfelter as Secretary and Treasurer. This Mission Sunday School grew and was organized into a church in 1940.

Miss Amelia Hough was employed as church secretary and Director of Religious Education in November, 1939, and was our church's first such employee. Due to the illness of her mother, Miss Hough

resigned in April, 1943, and returned in September of 1945. Miss Betty Brueck (Mrs. George E. White) was hired as Miss Hough's assistant. Upon resigning, Miss Brueck was replaced by Miss Lillie Mae LeGarde on March 1, 1948, and remained in this position until September, 1951. Miss Hough resigned in June, 1951, and Miss Anne Jones was hired as Director of Religious Education in September, 1951, remaining until June, 1952. In November, 1953, Miss Jean Moling came to us as Director of Christian Education and remained in this position until September, 1956. We now have serving us The Reverend Samuel N Thomas, who was issued a call as Assistant Pastor and Minister of Education on July 21, 1957, and reported on September 15, 1957.

Two Mission Sunday Schools were started in 1946. The first, Crestwood, was organized on February 24, 1946, with Mr. H. C. Simmons serving as Superintendent and Mr. Harry Alexander as Secretary-Treasurer. Twenty-three attended the first Sunday. The Randolph Mission was started March 24, 1946, with fifty-eight attending the first Sunday. Mr. Logan Porter, Sr., served as Superintendent and Mr. John B. Williams as Secretary-Treasurer. These two Missions are now Churches in their own right.

In March, 1950, the Fellowship class of our Sunday School sponsored a fund to provide college scholarships for young people desiring to enter the ministry or religious work. This was done as a memorial to the late Charles Stewart, Jr., a member of that class.

Jack Southerland, Superintendent of the Sunday School and Chairman of the Religious Education Committee, reported to the Session in May, 1952, the need for additional space for our Sunday School, especially in the Kindergarten and Nursery Departments. At a congregational meeting August 2, 1952, the congregation authorized the erection of an addition to our educational building. After much time, thought, and prayer, the plans for the present building were approved and work begun September 16, 1953. The Cornerstone Laying Ceremony was held Sunday afternoon, November 15, 1953, and the Consecration Service on Sunday afternoon, June 6, 1954. The building committee was composed of Jack Southerland, chairman; Howard Pancoast, P. Hunter Dalton, Sr., H. D. Sears, Jr., S. P. Montgomery, Mrs. Sanders Dallas, and Mrs. Tom Marlowe. The finance committee included G. E. Hutchens, E. B. Gamble, and C. M. Allred, co-chairmen; V. W. Idol, Jr., treasurer; W. Stanley Davis, D. W. Hunter, A. M. Rankin, Jr., and J. Williard Thomas.

A bequest left to this church by Mrs. Ruby N. Bartlett helped

make this building possible, and a room of this edifice is a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Bartlett. Bronze plaques on the chapel doors are fittingly inscribed and oil portraits of the Bartletts, painted by Mrs. Curtis Smithdeal, hang in this room.

In May, 1959, Mr. James Hogg, Chairman of the Christian Education Committee, appeared before the session to report that more classroom space is needed for our growing Sunday School. A committee was appointed to study the needs and the space available and to report back to the session their findings. Apparently our Sunday School continues to enjoy a steady, healthy growth.

In order that we might observe the growth of our Sunday School over the years, the following chart was prepared from reports to Presbytery:

In 1861, number enrolled in Sunday School 35, enrolled in church 28, total contributions for year \$211.00; in 1885, enrolled in Sunday School 77, enrolled in church 43, total contributions for year \$239.20; in 1910, enrolled in Sunday School 213, enrolled in church 147, total contributions for year \$2,270.00; in 1934, enrolled in Sunday School 555, enrolled in church 608, total contributions for year \$27,492.00; and in 1958, enrolled in Sunday School 770; enrolled in church 1,176, and total contributions for year \$120,492.00.

On December 22, 1912, it was recorded in the session minutes that Mr. E. A. Snow resigned as Superintendent of the Sunday School after twenty-two years of continuous service. It was also recorded that Mr. L. C. Sinclair resigned as assistant Superintendent on May 16, 1909, and that Mr. W. D. Alexander was elected by the session to fill the vacancy. Mr. Snow must have begun his duties as Superintendent in 1890, and was the first man to hold this office according to the recorded information we have today.

The men who have served as officers of our Sunday School in the years since 1912 are as follows:

Superintendents of Sunday School: J. A. Lloyd, 1913; G. W. Denny, 1915; A. S. Caldwell, Jr., 1916; Carter Dalton, 1918; W. W. Smith, 1920; R. E. Ranson, 1921; D. E. Headen, 1922-1923; F. Logan Porter, Sr., 1924-1929; Lamar McCallum, 1930-1935; M. A. Temple, 1936; J. D. Ross, 1937-1938; Harry L. Brown, 1940-1944; Howard R. Pancoast, 1945-1946; P. H. Dalton, Sr., 1947-1948; Noble T. Praigg, 1949-1951; Jack W. Southerland, 1952-1953; W. H. Kimrey, 1954-1955; Joe G. Hunt, 1956-1957; and Charles Plummer, 1958-1959.

Assistant Superintendents of Sunday School: W. F. Norman, 1913; Carter Dalton, 1915-1916; A. S. Caldwell, Sr., 1918-1921; F. Logan Porter, Sr., 1923; D. M. Pollock, 1924; Charles W. Perry, 1925-1929; H. M. Curlee, 1930; Harry Brown, 1936; J. C. Kaneer, 1937-1938; Howard R. Pancoast, 1940; W. F. Robinette, 1943-1944; A. W. Burns, 1945; Henry V. Koons, 1947; John A. Womack, Sr., 1949; Jack W. Southerland, 1951; W. H. Kimery, 1952-1953; Joe G. Hunt, 1954-1955; Charles Plummer, 1956-1957; and Carl Bailey, 1958-1959.

Secretaries and Treasurers of Sunday School: W. C. Herndon, 1915; J. J. Griffith, 1916-1918; W. E. Herndon, 1920-1930; W. A. Hayes, 1931-1940; P. S. Mason, 1943; Mason Brown, 1944; Harry L. Brown, 1945-1949; Mason Brown, 1951; Harry L. Brown, 1952; E. J. Oglesby, 1953-1954; V. W. Idol, Jr., 1955-1956; and George E. White, 1958-1959.

Assistant Secretaries and Treasurers: Louis Bennett, 1915; W. A. Hayes, 1918-1930; F. Logan Porter, Jr., 1935; J. B. Kelly, 1936-1937; P. S. Mason, 1938-1940; W. A. Hayes, 1943-1945; Mason Brown, 1949; E. J. Oglesby, 1951-1952; V. W. Idol, Jr., 1953-1954; George E. White, 1955-1956; Sam Groce, 1957-1958; and James S. Hunt, 1959.

Another officer of our Sunday School who has played a great part is our official greeter. First mention of this office was in April, 1918, when Mr. F. M. Barbee was elected Reception Chairman. No further mention of this office is recorded until recent years when Mr. George Connor has served so well in this capacity.

There are many, many others, both men and women, who have served their Sunday School faithfully as officers, department heads, and teachers, but space does not permit us to name all of them. The Church will always be grateful to these men and women for their devotion and service in the growth of our Sunday School.



September 3, 1959

THE CHURCH SCHOOL

Charles E. Plummer Superintendent	Sam H. Groce Secretary-Treasurer
Carl A. Bailey Adult Superintendent	James S. Hunt
Mrs. R. G. Culp, Jr.	Assistant Secretary-Treasurer
Children's Superintendent	

DEPARTMENTAL SUPERINTENDENTS

Cradle Roll Mrs. Tyree H. Nabors	Kindergarten II
Nursery I Mrs. J. B. Cottingham	Mrs. Harry A. Alexander
Nursery II Mrs. John A. Womack	Primary Mrs. Kenneth G. Mann
Kindergarten I . . Mrs. David K. Tillson	Junior Mr. H. E. Rothrock, Jr.
	Pioneer-Senior
	Mr. and Mrs. George A. Cooke

WESTMINSTER FELLOWSHIP

Otis Boroughs President	Joe Spangler Treasurer
Liz Peterson Vice-President	Mr. and Mrs. Howard R. Pancoast
Sylvia Alexander Secretary	Advisers
David Pancoast Assistant Secretary	

THE SENIOR HIGH FELLOWSHIP

Ruth Pancoast President	Larry Varner Treasurer
Mary Womack Program Chairman	Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Ray Martin
Kay Idol Secretary	Advisers

THE PIONEER FELLOWSHIP

Betsy Creech President	Jane Rankin Secretary-Treasurer
Anne Harvey Vice-President	Diana Deyo Worship Chairman
Corky Hustrulid . Co-Program Chairman	Mr. and Mrs. Ben H. Martin . . Advisers

ADULT CLASSES

Gleaners Mrs. R. K. Young	Covenanters, Co-Teachers
Denny Bible Class, Mrs. Ruby S. Bencini	P. Hunter Dalton, IV, G. A. Covington
Snow Memorial, Co-Teachers	Fellowship Mrs. E. B. Collins
C. E. Stuart, Ralph Smith	Young Adults, Co-Teachers
Couples Mrs. C. A. McMurray	Howard Pancoast, W. S. Creech

HISTORY OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

by

DAVID PANCOAST

The history of the young people's work in The First Presbyterian Church begins before our church occupied the present building. When we were in our second building, the young people's work was carried out through the Christian Endeavour. This group was part of a fine city union, which permitted our young people to work closely with those of most of the churches in the city.

The Christian Endeavour made a substantial contribution to the lives of the young people. Most of the leadership came from the young people themselves. They planned well and always had a good program. Some of the outstanding leaders in our church received their training in the Christian Endeavour.

During that time the church was at the center of the lives of the people, a fact which heightened the interest of the young people in their program. The time came when our church developed its own organizations for young people's work. The Presbyterian Youth Fellowship (later called the Senior High Fellowship) was for high school students, and the Pioneer Youth Fellowship was for young people in junior high school.

These groups have had fine leadership, but the growth of secular attractions and activities has made it necessary for the church to exert more initiative in presenting a stimulating and attractive program for young people. The church has responded well to this challenge, providing fellowship and recreation in addition to a worship program.

A snack supper precedes each Sunday night meeting at the church. The recreational facilities of the church are available at this time and at other times. A summer camping program has attracted good participation. Each year the young people go Christmas carolling and take one or two educational excursions to Chapel Hill.

Opportunities for spiritual advancement and service are not neglected, however. They hold a worship service each Sunday night. An offering is taken, to be used for benevolent objectives. The young people initiate and carry through projects which contribute to the total church program.

Each group elects its own officers, usually at the beginning of the church year. Although adult advisers are available to assist when needed, the leaders and members of each group have a major share of the responsibility for planning and carrying out their worship services, programs, and activities.

Like the Christian Endeavour before them, these organizations provide for the spiritual needs of junior and senior high school students and contribute to the program of the church. In addition, they provide valuable training for the positions of responsibility in the church which many of these young people will fill as adults.

In the fall of 1956, the young people's work was extended by the organization of a Westminster Fellowship at High Point College. This has proved to be a valuable extension of the work. The Westminster Fellowship serves to fill the religious needs in the lives of Presbyterian students at High Point College, many of whom are away from their homes and out of contact with their own churches.

Although the Westminster Fellowship was organized primarily to minister to these students, all young people of college age, including non-Presbyterian students and young people not attending college, are welcome at the meetings. In this way, the organization has served as a means of bringing uncommitted young people into our church.

The Westminster Fellowship meets twice a month for a program of worship and instruction, followed by refreshments and a period of fellowship. The meetings are held on a night during the week, usually at the home of the adult sponsors, although occasional meetings are held at the church and at other places.

In addition to the regular meetings, the group carries out frequent service projects. Favorite ones are going Christmas carolling at the homes of shut-in members of our church, presenting programs at the Presbyterian Home, and cleaning and arranging the toys in the nursery of our church. The Fellowship participates in the religious programs of the college, thereby contributing to the religious life of the college and carrying the Presbyterian doctrine before the student body.

Although a young organization, the Westminster Fellowship fills a definite need in an area of young people's work which was previously ignored. It seems destined to continue to be an important influence in the lives of Presbyterian young people of college age.

September 3, 1959

WESTMINSTER FELLOWSHIP

Otis Boroughs	President	David Pancoast	Assistant Secretary
Liz Peterson	Vice-President	Joe Spangler	Treasurer
Sylvia Alexander	Secretary	Mr. and Mrs. Howard R. Pancoast	Advisers

THE SENIOR HIGH FELLOWSHIP

Ruth Pancoast	President	Larry Varner	Treasurer
Mary Womack	Program Chairman	Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Ray Martin	Advisers
Kay Idol	Secretary		

THE PIONEER FELLOWSHIP

Betsy Creech	President	Jane Rankin	Secretary-Treasurer
Anne Harvey	Vice-President	Diana Deyo	Worship Chairman
Corky Hustrulid	Co-Program Chairman	Mr. and Mrs. Ben H. Martin . .	Advisers



THE SCOUTING PROGRAM

by

FLORENCE AND JOHN WOMACK

From 1919 until the present, The First Presbyterian Church has maintained a continuous scouting program covering such fields as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Sea Scouts, Cub Scouts and Explorers, our church has achieved an outstanding record in the field of character building and Christian leadership. This program has been recognized in the community as one of excellence and durability.

Ever since Girl Scouting was established in High Point in 1937, the Presbyterian Church and its women have been very closely associated with this movement.

Mrs. P. Hunter Dalton, III, served as Publicity Chairman for the first Girl Scout Council to be elected in the city and in subsequent years served Girl Scouting in many other capacities.

Almost consecutively during the past twenty-two years, there has been a member of the Presbyterian Church serving on the Council either in an executive capacity or as a committee chairman.

From 1939-1948, Mrs. Mabel Burnett, a member of this church, served as Executive Secretary for the Girl Scouts and under her capable leadership, many new troops were added to the Council and the scouting movement went forward rapidly. It was under her term of office in 1945, that Camp Keyauwee at Sophia was established for girls of this area and it was she who served as first Camp Director in 1947. No mention of the camp can be made without recognition of one of the officers of our church, Mr. Paul Williamson. He, with his wife, Mrs. Sally Williamson, a devoted worker in our Women of the Church, owned the land on which the camp now stands. Together they made its acquisition by the Girl Scouts possible. Mr. Williamson has continued his support of the Girl Scout Movement in many ways and has served faithfully on the Council for six years. When the new dining hall at the camp was erected in 1958, it was a fitting tribute to him and to his wife that it be named the Sally Williamson Hall in Mrs. Williamson's memory.

Four Presbyterian women have each served for two years as Commissioner of the Girl Scout Council or Council President as the office is now known. Mrs. Lawrence Marsden was elected Commissioner in 1950, followed by Mrs. Robert Courts in 1952. Mrs. Courts also served for two months in 1954, as Volunteer Scout Executive. In 1956, Mrs. Robert Helm was elected Council President and from

October until May of the next year also served as Paid Executive Secretary. Mrs. E. C. Rankin, Jr., who is serving as Council President at the present time, was elected in 1958.

Throughout the history of Girl Scouting in High Point, the doors of the Presbyterian Church has been open for various scout meetings. Courts of Awards, Vesper Services, Neighborhood Leaders' Meetings and Scout Camp Rallies have been and are continuing to be held at our church.

During the past twenty-two years, Brownie, Intermediate and Senior Girl Scout troops have been sponsored almost continuously by the Presbyterian Church.

The first troop was organized in 1937, shortly after Girl Scouting was established in High Point. Mrs. Charles Hodgkin and Miss Pauline Ribelin, the Church Secretary, were the organizers of this first troop and had thirteen girls in attendance at the membership meeting held on November 9, 1937. For the next two years, the records show that this troop, under these same leaders, had a very interesting and active program. After Mrs. Hodgkin was elected treasurer of the Girl Scout Council in 1938, the leadership of the troop was taken over in 1939, by Mrs. J. T. Still and Mrs. George Machen.

In 1954, we find that our church sponsored the first and only Wing Scout Troop in the city. This troop was established for girls interested in aviation and was led by Mrs. H. M. Bryant, who had for several years led a troop of Girl Scouts at the Church and by Mrs. Herman Smith.

Presbyterian women too numerous to mention have led troops sponsored by our church or by other agencies. Throughout the records we find that they have all had the same dedication to their goal of building character and leadership qualities in the members of their troops not only by instruction, but by their own example. An illustration of this point is Mrs. Hal Davis, who, when a counselor at Day Camp, took her small baby, Mary Elizabeth, with her, thus showing the girls that many obstacles have to be overcome to fulfill an obligation.

This same spirit seems to prevail today, for during the year 1958-59, in order to direct the activities of Brownie Troop 48, both of the leaders, Mrs. E. B. Collins and Mrs. D. V. Hoskins brought their younger children to each of the troop meetings.

During this past year, in addition to Brownie Troop 48, the church has sponsored an Intermediate Troop led by Mrs. H. L. Hauser,

and Mrs. J. R. Lytle and assisted by Mrs. Paul Teague. Also, Mrs. John Deyo has led a Senior Scout Troop which has had a most enviable record as six of its members received their Curved Bar, the highest award in Girl Scouting, at the camporee held in the spring of 1959.

For twenty-two years, an untold number of Presbyterian women, believing in the character building qualities of this program, have given sacrificially of their time and talents to the Girl Scout Movement. As a sponsoring agency, we can be proud of the record they have maintained.

BOY SCOUTS

It was sometime in the early fall of 1919, that Jack Burrus, shortly returned from service in World War I, approached The Reverend Mr. Coble, Mr. E. M. Shipman, Mr. G. W. Denny, and other men from the First Presbyterian Church about forming a Boy Scout troop. This group eagerly responded and gave its consent to sponsor such a group. Lacking formal charters and national procedures, the group was ruggedly organized with a somewhat military color into what was believed to be not only the first scout troop in the Presbyterian Church, but the first troop in High Point. Jack Burrus, as its first Scoutmaster ably led and worked with this unofficial troop for approximately two years oftentimes meeting with the boys in the Church Sanctuary as no other space was then available.

After a lapse of about a year, during which time official scouting was taking its place in the South and in High Point, we find that the first official troop in our church was born. In November, 1923, during the ministry of The Reverend C. P. Coble, a charter was issued to the First Presbyterian Church then located on South Main Street, for Boy Scout Troop #1. This troop had quite a large membership and F. Logan Porter was appointed the first Scoutmaster.

This original charter listed the names of the Scout Committee as: The Reverend C. P. Coble, chairman, with committeemen, William A. Hayes and A. S. Caldwell, Jr. Under the able leadership of scoutmaster, Logan Porter and his committee, this troop not only prospered but grew to an enrollment of forty boys by 1925. Though we lack the facts, it must be assumed that sometime during this year an appeal was made to the Scout Office for help as the load of forty boys was obviously pressing the Scoutmaster and his workers. As a result, or either through a reshuffling of troops in the community, Troop I was supplemented by issuing a charter to the church for Scout Troop #2. This new troop was organized with one-half the

boys from Troop 1, and I. Paul Ingle was appointed its first Scoutmaster. Both troops continued to grow and prosper with the relieved pressure, under the leadership of these two fine men and their single committee. Both of these troops remained active for about three years. During this interim the only change noted in the original committee was the replacement of The Reverend Mr. Coble by A. E. Taplin.

Subsequently both Mr. Ingle and Mr. Porter were drawn into community work and Scouting on a different level and during 1930-31, we find another shuffle of troops in High Point. The result was a substitution of Troop 20 for Troops 1 and 2.

From 1931 through 1932, during the ministry of The Reverend C. H. Nabors with C. W. Perry acting as general chairman, S. C. Clark, Jr., served as Scoutmaster operating under a committee headed by P. H. Dalton, III. In 1933, during the ministry of The Reverend Joseph Rennie, Charles T. Parker became Scoutmaster and, under the committee chairmanship of Paul Ingle continued to function with an enrollment of from 10 to 20 boys. The Troop continued under this leadership until the ministry of The Reverend O. C. Williamson, and in 1937, Harry Newland became Scoutmaster.

1938 brought forth another change in scouting in our church when a Sea Scout unit was added. Being an outgrowth of Troop 20, it was organized with about one-third of the troops' membership and operated parallel with the land troop. Jesse Wall became the first Skipper of the newly organized unit, while C. S. McGahey remained as Scoutmaster of the land troop. The organization of this Sea Scout unit took place in January, 1938, with approximately fifteen boys registered. This unit was chartered as Ship 20 of the S.S.S. Chesapeake.

The year 1939, saw growth in Ship 20 under the leadership of Skipper Jesse Wall and Mate Charles Mendenhall. Wall continued to lead this branch of scouting through 1945, under faithful support of committeemen such as General Chairman, D. E. Headen, J. D. Ross, P. H. Dalton, Mason Brown, G. R. Ward and many others. In 1946, Wall relinquished mastery of this ship to one of his former boys of 1939, registry, Ralph Cox. Cox acting as Skipper under the committee of Mason Brown, Chairman; J. E. Beeson, Secretary and Treasurer; and D. W. Hunter; committeeman guided Ship 20 on its last voyage through 1946 to 1947. In June of this year, the boys attended a regional Sea Scout Rendezvous at Charleston, S. C., where they acquitted themselves very admirably. 1947 was the last year of activity of this unit and some of its members later organized and joined Explorer Post 20.

While Ship 20 was smoothly sailing along, there was continued activity noted in the land organization. C. S. MaGahey as Scoutmaster served for two years followed by Ernest McCall. Mr. McCall served until 1942, when he went into service in World War II. There is a little story told that just before leaving for service, McCall was honored with a gift from his troop as a token of esteem for his faithful service to them. In presenting the award to him, one of the scouts seriously began his remarks by saying, "and in *memorial* to Mr. McCall, we present him with this little gift". In spite of that tribute, we are glad that Mr. McCall returned to continue scouting work after the war. In this period of activity, the Presbyterian Scouts were making a name for themselves by winning many honors at camporees and other contests. They were also noted for community volunteer work and many rank advancements.

Through the war years scouting was continued in as normal a manner as possible with Scoutmasters D. K. Cloniger and R. D. Tilson carrying the work forward. All of this scouting from 1938 to 1945, was during the ministry of Dr. O. C. Williamson and under the committee leadership of J. D. Ross, D. H. Hall, Jr., Frank B. Smith, and C. S. McGahey with D. E. Headen as General Chairman.

Beginning in 1946, and throughout the ministry of The Reverend Paul Tudor Jones, scouting was carried on in like manner. Noting some major changes in the community organization, instead of sponsoring agents having General Chairmen they were called Institutional Representatives. Hal Davis served in this capacity succeeded in 1951, by Frank Smith who was succeeded by Ernest McCall in 1954, and is continuing to serve in this position at the present time.

Scoutmasters serving during this time were: William Curry, 1946; John Williams, 1947; N. R. Calhan, 1948; and J. C. Kaneer who not only served throughout the ministry of Dr. Paul Jones but continued to serve until 1954, at which time he transferred his leadership to Explorer Post 20 where he is presently acting as advisor and leader. Serving as committee chairmen during the period 1946 until 1951, were C. S. McGahey, Hal Davis, and George Covington.

During the ministry of Dr. Roy Watts until the present time, we find a little more scouting activity with many more boys achieving God and Country Awards and quite a few attaining the rank of Eagle Scout. Scoutmasters giving their services during this period are: J. C. Kaneer, 1952-1954; Carl Bailey, 1955; and W. D. Smith, 1956 until the present. Troop Chairmen are listed as: George Covington, C. S. McGahey, J. E. Beeson, J. A. Womack, and N. L. Garner.

In addition to the above listed names, many others have served faithfully as committeemen, councilmen, commissioners, and other executives to aid in the success of this program for boys from the ages of eleven to fourteen years.

CUB SCOUTS

With a demand for a scouting program for younger boys in the church, Cub Pack 20 was formed in January, 1949, with George White acting as Cubmaster and Dr. John F. Lynch as Committee Chairman. There were four Dens for the year 1949-50, led by Den Mothers, Mrs. J. H. Hogg, Mrs. Ed Grimsley, Mrs. Sanders Dallas, and Mrs. Howard Pancoast. These women followed a course of instruction prescribed by National Boy Scout Headquarters, designed to introduce boys nine to eleven and their parents to the skills and crafts of Boy Scouting. During this year thirty-four boys were reached through this program.

The following year, 1950-51, Mr. White continued as Cubmaster with Dr. Lynch again Committee Chairman and the same women acting as Den Mothers. However, the program had expanded until it was necessary to add a fifth Den under the leadership of Mrs. Crafts. During this year thirty-six boys participated in the program.

In 1951-52, R. E. Bencini became Cubmaster of Pack 20 with Dr. Lynch again serving as Committee Chairman. During this year the organization grew to a membership of forty-seven boys with nine Dens led by Mrs. Howard Pancoast, Mrs. H. O. Williams, Mrs. Ridge, Mrs. Allen McDonald, Mrs. W. K. Whitesell (deceased), Mrs. Henry Foscue, Mrs. Earl Phillips, Mrs. Betty Warner Stell, and Mrs. Anthony Scarpitta.

Mr. H. O. Williams succeeded Mr. Bencini as Cubmaster in 1952-53, and Dr. Lynch was succeeded as Committee Chairman by Dr. Sam Hart. During this period, the pack continued to grow with fifty-six boys registered in eight dens. The Den Mothers for this year were: Mrs. Ed Gurley, Mrs. Henry Foscue, Mrs. Earl Phillips, Mrs. Bisette, Mrs. Betty Warner Stell, Mrs. Ben Franklin, Mrs. Walter Comfort, and Mrs. C. L. Amos, Jr.

By 1954-55, Pack 20 had grown to such proportions that it was necessary to split and form a second pack. In January, 1955, Mr. C. P. Kirkman took over the leadership of Pack 20 as Cubmaster and Mr. V. P. Harlee became Committee Chairman. There were four dens with Mrs. Don Dahl, Mrs. Cecil Wilcox, Mrs. Spoon and Mrs.

John Womack serving as Den Mothers. Forty boys were registered as members of this pack.

Pack 99, as the new pack was known, had a membership of thirty-seven boys and was headed by Marion Rowland, Jr., as Cubmaster and J. A. Shapard as Committee Chairman. The four dens were led by: Den Mothers, Mrs. Frank Wood, Mrs. Ed Gurley, Mrs. Petty and Mrs. Joe Blair. It is interesting to note that with these two packs, the Presbyterian Church became the only agency in this district to sponsor more than one Cub Pack.

In 1955-56, membership in the Cub Scout program had decreased to thirty-seven boys through the aging out of many boys into Boy Scouting. As a consequence it was no longer necessary to sponsor two packs. Mr. C. P. Kirkman continued as Cubmaster of Pack 20 with Mr. Harllee serving as Committee Chairman and the four dens were led by Mrs. Ruth Adams, Mrs. T. R. Kennerly, Mrs. John Albertson, and Mrs. John Womack. During this year, Mr. Kirkman initiated a Webelos Den for boys in the Cub Scout program who were ten and a half. The program of this den was to prepare these boys to pass the Tenderfoot requirements necessary for them to become members of a Boy Scout Troop. This den was continued by Mr. Kirkman during his entire service as Cubmaster.

During the year 1956 to 1957, the Cub Scout membership again increased and fifty-three boys were registered. Mr. Kirkman continued as Cubmaster and Mr. Arthur Dickens served as Committee Chairman. There were six dens and the Den Mothers were: Mrs. John Womack, Mrs. John Albertson, Mrs. A. B. Croom, Mrs. Gilbert Koontz, Mrs. C. L. Amos, Jr., and Mrs. E. Bullard.

Mr. George Armfield succeeded Mr. Kirkman as Cubmaster in 1957-58, with Mr. Wingate Collins serving as Committee Chairman. Thirty-nine Cub Scouts were divided into five dens led by Mrs. Fred Flagler, Jr., Mrs. C. L. Amos, Jr., Mrs. E. Bullard, Mrs. Dick Short, and Mrs. Arthur Dickens. Mr. Armfield and Mr. Collins continued to serve the pack for part of the year 1958-59, when they were succeeded by Mr. Robert Courts as Cubmaster and Mr. Z. P. Long as Committee Chairman. There were only two dens with a combined membership of thirty-five boys at this time. They were led by Mrs. C. L. Amos, Jr., and Mrs. Tom Harvey.

During the year 1959 to 1960, Mr. Robert Courts again led Pack 20. Thirty-eight boys were served by the program during this period and the five dens had as Den Mothers: Mrs. Jake Boden-

heimer, Mrs. Dot Byerly, Mrs. Charles Xepolis, Mrs. John Thomas, and Mrs. Malcolm Phelps.

Since its organization in 1949, Cub Scouting has proven to be a valuable training program for younger boys in our church, for out of it have come many of our finest Boy Scouts.

EXPLORER SCOUTS

Feeling a need for a scouting program for older boys and attempting to salvage a waning interest in Sea Scouting, an Explorer Post was originally organized in 1949 by Ralph Cox, formerly Skipper of Ship 20, and eight Explorer Scouts. Unfortunately this unit did not last but a year and was dropped for lack of interest. However, in 1955, following a successful year as Scoutmaster, J. C. Kaneer reorganized Explorer Post 20 with an enrollment of seventeen boys. This step was prompted by an acute need for a program for scouts over fourteen years of age who, by remaining in the troop would deprive the younger boys of positions of leadership.

The Explorer Post was designed to introduce the boys to a four-point program of out-of-door, vocational, social and citizenship training. While persuing some phases of this program, the year was highlighted by a Council sponsored cruise for the boys aboard a naval ship out of Norfolk, Va. While on this cruise, the ship was caught by Hurricane Connie, but successfully rode it out before returning to port. There were many other interesting tours for the boys which took them to Army bases and training camps. All in all it was a good first year.

The year 1956-57, found J. C. Kaneer again as Advisor for the unit with Committee Chairman, Dick Meisky. The enrollment remained at seventeen and another good year was reported with many tours to manufacturing plants, cold weather camps and social activities.

The year 1957, under the same leadership and enrollment boasted several fine tours to schools and colleges. Among these tours were included trips to V.M.I., and V.P.I. These the boys thoroughly enjoyed.

1958-59, was a year of smaller membership, but one of concentrated study. It is recalled that one Eagle Scout emerged from this group that year.

1959, under the same leadership began and continues a year of renewed spirit and interest in spite of the loss in membership. Besides a year of rank advancement in which two boys achieved the rank

of Eagle Scout, many trips and excursions were made including a special week of camping at Ocracoke on the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

The most noticeable event of 1959, was the change in the basic program from four points to six. The six new points are: Out-of-doors, personal fitness, vocational, social activities, and citizenship. Under the new program, the boys are allowed to choose a subject of interest which the entire Post wishes to study. They pursue this until they learn it, then take up another subject. These activities are interspersed with other points of the program.

Mr. Kaneer and other volunteer members of his staff and committee are certainly to be commended for the fine and unselfish work which they have done and are doing in this field of scouting.

The Boy Scout program in our church has not only developed new leaders among the boys participating, but has served further to strengthen those qualities already present in the adults who so faithfully gave of their time to this work. One can look around at the past and present officers in the church and find that a large majority of their names appear somewhere in records as a participant in the Scouting Program. Many of these fine scouters did not remain as leaders on a local unit level, but were called into a wider scope of volunteer service on the District, Council and Regional level. The records recall four of our leaders who were recognized by the Uwharrie Council for their efficient and faithful services, by awarding them the Silver Beaver Award. These men were: I. Paul Ingle, Charles W. Perry, Carl Kaneer, and Ernest McCall. Later the record shows that I. Paul Ingle won the most coveted award, the Silver Antelope, presented by the region for outstanding achievement in this field of scouting. In addition to those mentioned as award recipients, many other men from our church both in the past, and at present have had executive responsibilities in scouting in the district and council.

Of course there are many unsung heroes of scouting on all levels whose only reward will be self satisfaction in a job well done and in seeing character develop. It is regretted that there is insufficient space to list all of those who have had a part in this program which has been and will continue to be so vital in the development of Christian character and leadership among our youth. May we always have men of such strength and unselfish devotion to youth, to continue this good work in our church, that our future may be insured with Christian leadership.



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